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EVA'S CALL ON HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

NOW STOP THE HATE

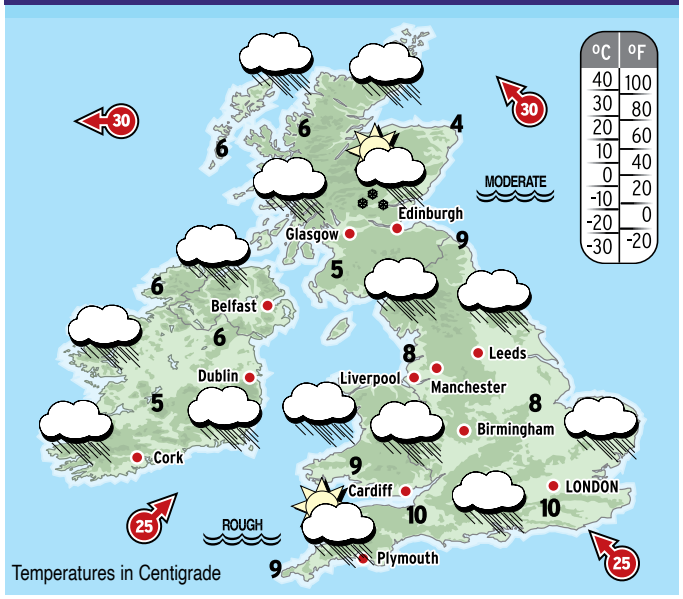
Young Eva with mum Anka. Left, Eva today

Despite being born to her skeletal mother Anka in a concentration camp and having 15 of her family murdered by the Nazis, Eva Clarke, 80, is still hopeful for a better future if we stand up to prejudice and tackle rising antisemitism

SEE PAGES 4, 5 and 12

DX1ST

WEATHER FORECAST



Today's summary: Rainy start, clearing later

North West: Persistent drizzle early on, clearing to fair skies. Breezy at first, easing later. Cool. High 9C (48F).

Northern Ireland: Cloudy and wet with outbreaks of rain, heavy at times. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 7C (45F).

Wales: Wet start, bright spells later. Breezy winds, cooling down through the evening. High 10C (50F).

Midlands: Overcast and wet with drizzle and rain, heavy for a time. Moderate north-westerly winds. High 9C (48F).

North East/Yorks: Overcast and wet with rain, some of it heavy. Light winds. High 6C (43F).

Scotland: Wet start, clearing to overcast skies. Strong winds easing slightly. Cool temperatures. High 5C (41F).

East Anglia: Wet with outbreaks of rain, possibly heavy at times. Gentle southerly winds. High 7C (45F).

London/South East: Overcast and wet with drizzle and rain, heavy for a time. Moderate south-westerly winds. High 10C (50F).

South: Wet with rain, heavy at first, clearing to sunshine and showers. Moderate northerly winds. High 10C (50F).

South West: Cloud cover with some wet spells. Bright intervals later. Breezy, turning cooler. High 10C (50F).

Channel Isles: Wet with rain for a time. A mostly dry afternoon. Fresh westerly winds. High 10C (50F).

Sea: North Sea: Moderate. Irish Sea: Moderate. Channel: Rough.

UK OUTLOOK TOMORROW: Expect cool temperatures with rain showers easing to partly cloudy skies. Winds moderate, becoming lighter later, with occasional fair spells.

SIX-DAY FORECAST Temperatures in Centigrade

	WED min max	THU min max	FRI min max	SAT min max	SUN min max	MON min max
London	4 10	5 8	4 9	4 8	3 7	4 7
Belfast	5 8	5 7	4 6	4 6	4 6	3 6
Birmingham	3 8	4 6	4 7	3 7	2 6	2 6
Cardiff	4 10	5 8	4 9	3 8	4 8	3 8
Glasgow	3 8	3 7	3 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
Manchester	4 9	4 7	4 7	3 7	3 6	2 6
Newcastle	4 7	4 6	3 6	3 6	2 5	2 5
Norwich	3 9	4 6	4 6	3 7	3 6	2 5
Plymouth	7 10	7 9	5 10	5 9	6 9	6 9

Britain yesterday

24 hours to 5pm	SUN (hrs)	RAIN (ins)	TEMP (min)	(max)
Aberdeen	0.0	0.07	3	5
Aberporth	0.0	0.09	2	7
Alnwick	0.0	0.05	4	6
Belfast	0.0	0.18	5	6
Birmingham	0.0	0.02	2	4
B'mouth	0.1	0.04	3	8
Bristol	0.0	0.04	4	7
Cardiff	0.0	0.09	3	7
Durham	0.0	0.06	3	3
Edinburgh	0.0	0.01	3	5
Glasgow	0.0	0.00	4	5
Hull	0.0	0.01	4	4
Ipswich	0.0	0.00	2	4
Leeds	0.0	0.05	3	3
Lincoln	0.0	0.00	2	3
London	0.0	0.00	4	6
Manchester	0.0	0.00	3	4
Oxford	0.0	0.00	3	6
S'hampton	0.1	0.05	6	8
St Andrews	0.0	0.24	4	5

Britain Extremes: (24 hours to 11pm Sunday)
Warmest: Plymouth, Mountbatten, 11c (52f).
Coldest: Lerwick, 1c (34f).
Wettest: Altnahinch Filters, 1.40ins.
Sunniest: Valley, 7.3hrs.

Moon, sun and tides

MOON rises: 10.42am, sets: 2.38am
SUN rises London: 7.46am, sets: 4.41pm
Manchester rises: 8.02am, sets: 4.42pm
Full Moon 01 February

HIGH TIDE

London B'ge	(7.12am), (7.56pm)
Liverpool	(4.42am), (5.16pm)
Greenock	(5.44am), (6.18pm)
Dover	(4.32am), (5.11pm)

Lighting-up times

Belfast	4.52pm-8.19am
Birmingham	4.44pm-7.55am
Bristol	4.51pm-7.54am
Glasgow	4.39pm-8.18am
London	4.41pm-7.44am
Manchester	4.42pm-8.00am
Newcastle	4.33pm-8.03am

Europe forecast

Today			Tomorrow		
Amsterdam	Rain	4C/39F	Amsterdam	Cloudy	5C/41F
Brussels	Rain	6C/43F	Brussels	Cloudy	7C/45F
Dublin	Showers	9C/48F	Dublin	Drizzle	9C/48F
Frankfurt	Rain	4C/39F	Frankfurt	Rain	4C/39F
Geneva	Rain	5C/41F	Geneva	Rain	4C/39F
Lisbon	Thunder	13C/55F	Lisbon	Rain	16C/61F
Madrid	Rain	11C/52F	Madrid	Rain	9C/48F
Paris	Rain	10C/50F	Paris	Cloudy	8C/46F
Rome	Fair	14C/57F	Rome	Thunder	15C/59F

Around the world yesterday

		C	F			C	F			C	F
Amsterdam	Cloudy	2	36	Hong Kong	Sunny	21	70	New York	Snow	-9	16
Athens	Rain	12	54	Istanbul	Fair	15	59	Nice	Sunny	12	54
Barcelona	Fair	13	55	Jersey	Cloudy	8	46	Nicosia	Cloudy	16	61
Berlin	Snow	0	32	Larnaca	Cloudy	19	66	Perth	Fair	25	77
Budapest	Cloudy	6	43	Las Palmas	Sunny	19	66	Prague	Snow	2	36
Cairo	Fair	22	72	Los Angeles	Cloudy	18	64	Singapore	Fair	30	86
Cape Town	Sunny	26	79	Luxor	Sunny	23	73	Stockholm	Fair	-4	25
Casablanca	Fair	18	64	Malaga	Cloudy	19	66	Sydney	Fair	23	73
Corfu	Shwrs	14	57	Mallorca	Fair	16	61	Tel Aviv	Fair	24	75
Dublin	Rain	6	43	Malta	Thndr	13	55	Tenerife	Sunny	20	68
Dubrovnik	Shwrs	10	50	Melbourne	Sunny	26	79	Toronto	Snow	-12	10
Faro	Shwrs	17	63	Miami	Sunny	28	82	Tunis	Shwrs	10	50
Florence	Drizzle	9	48	Moscow	Cloudy	-16	3	Venice	Fair	8	46
Gibraltar	Cloudy	17	63	Nairobi	Fair	26	79	Vienna	Cloudy	2	36
Guernsey	Cloudy	9	48	New Delhi	Sunny	17	63	Warsaw	Sleet	0	32

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'Let's go back to drilling for oil'

Union wants North Sea ban axed

By **AARON NEWBURY**

A UNION chief has backed Donald Trump's "drill, baby, drill" mantra amid demands for the government to lift a ban on new oil and gas projects in the North Sea.

Louise Gilmour, Scotland secretary for GMB Union, said: "We will always need oil and gas. I mean, I don't like Donald Trump, but he's right about 'drill, baby, drill'."

She added: "We've got this whole reserve of oil and gas just off our coast that we should be using."

The union boss is backing a new report from the Jobs Foundation which lays bare a "cliff edge" for UK energy, with punitive tax measures driving investment to foreign countries.

It warns Aberdeen could face a loss of 400 jobs every two weeks, with experts warning the city is on the brink of an economic collapse that will devastate working-class communities.

Energy Secretary Ed Miliband announced in November that he would be ruling out new oil and gas exploration licences in the North Sea as part of his net zero drive. Shadow Energy Secretary Claire Coutinho told the Express: "Ed Miliband and the SNP's ban on new drilling licences is complete insanity.

"As long as we need oil and gas, as much as possible should come from Britain."

Critics have slammed the government's approach to net zero with Reform deputy leader Richard Tice saying: "Britain is sitting on a vast energy treasure, and unlocking it will help families beat the cost-of-living crisis, strengthen our energy security, and deliver real economic benefits for the country." But the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero said: "Issuing new licences to explore new fields will not take a penny off bills, can't make us energy secure, and will only accelerate the worsening climate crisis."

BP oil rig east of Aberdeen in North Sea

UK no longer measles-free zone, warn health chiefs

BY **ELLA PICKOVER**

THE UK is no longer considered to have "eliminated" measles, global health officials have announced.

Measles transmission was "re-established" in the UK in 2024, according to the World Health Organisation.

It comes after a plateau in coverage of the MMR vaccine and a surge in cases, with 3,681 recorded in the UK in 2024.

From 2021 to 2023 the UK was considered by the WHO to have "eliminated" measles.

Dr Vanessa Saliba, an epidemiology expert at the UK Health Security Agency, said: "Infections can return quickly when childhood vaccine uptake falls."

Latest figures for England from the UKHSA show that in 2024-25 some 91.9% of five-year-olds had received one dose of the MMR vaccine, the lowest level since 2010-11.

And just 83.7% of five-year-olds had received both doses.

In January, health officials announced that UK children would now be offered the MMRV vaccine, which protects against measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox.

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OPINION **12** TV **37**
STARS **42** CITY **43**
LETTERS **46** SPORT **50**
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Art of poise...team Beckham hit Paris

PUTTING Brooklyn's social media post bombshell firmly behind them, team Beckham fashioned the most exquisite response in Paris.

Sir David, 50, and wife Lady Victoria, 51, stepped out with sons Romeo, 23, and Cruz, 20, and daughter Harper, 14, in a show of togetherness and tailoring as they left their five-star hotel.

The Beckham line-up, reeling from eldest son Brooklyn's excoriating attack on his parents, hit the pitch in the fashion capital ahead of an honour for Victoria.

The former Spice Girl-turned-fashion designer was yesterday made a Knight of the National Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres) by the French government during Paris Haute Couture Week.

Her award recognises the contributions of artists, writers and cultural figures. And looking relaxed and happy, Victoria opted for a classic black dress

BY **EMMA JOHNSON**
Fashion Editor

with Harper choosing a matching look. Football icon Sir David and his sons were also sartorial winners in their dapper dark suits.

Elsewhere in Paris, Demi Moore showed some animal magic.

The Substance star, 63, sported a black and grey leopard print trouser suit with a tiny beret-style hat.

And, arriving on the arm of her billionaire husband Jeff Bezos, Lauren Sanchez, 56, was hard to miss in her scarlet Schiaparelli red suit and sky-high heels.

The former journalist flashed a wide smile as she accessorised her look with one of the brand's iconic face bags, in crocodile leather complete with gilded lips and nose.

French former first lady Carla Bruni, 58, was also among the designer's guests in a long black coat and dress with a thigh-high split that revealed lacy tights.

Sir David Beckham with Lady Victoria, daughter Harper and sons Cruz and Romeo yesterday

From right: Carla Bruni, Demi Moore and Jeff Bezos with wife Lauren Sanchez in the French capital

Nigella's the new Prue

Nigella Lawson

DOMESTIC goddess Nigella Lawson has been confirmed as the new judge on The Great British Bake Off, replacing Dame Prue Leith.

The 66-year-old, known for her silky voice and saucy innuendos, said: "Of course it's daunting to be following in the footsteps of Prue Leith and Mary Berry before her, great dames both, but I'm also bubbling with excitement.

"The Great British Bake Off is more than a television programme, it's a national treasure."

BY **MARK JEFFERIES**

She will rate the bakes with silver fox Paul Hollywood, 59.

Dame Prue, 85, announced she was leaving last week after almost a decade on the show. Dame Mary Berry, 90, was in the original line-up and was judge for seven series.

Nigella has had her own shows on BBC and has previously fronted cooking competition The Taste on Channel 4.

She added: "I wish the marvellous Prue all the best, and am giddily grateful for the opportunity!"

Dame Prue said: "She's sassy and knows her onions... and her croissants, cake and crumble."

Dame Prue Leith

Ian Katz, chief content officer at Channel 4, said: "This series will be as mouthwatering a prospect as her chocolate Guinness cake."

Bake Off returns with hosts Alison Hammond and Noel Fielding later this year.

EXCLUSIVE

BY **GILES SHELDRICK** Chief Reporter

‘What’s happening is extremely worrying. The only answer is education... to stand up against racism’

EVA Clarke will take the horrors of the Holocaust to the grave.

Her skeletal mother gave birth to her on a coal cart at the gates of Mauthausen concentration camp. She weighed just 3lb.

Fifteen of her family were slaughtered by Nazis at Auschwitz-Birkenau including her father – shot a week before it was liberated.

Yet, despite the lifelong pain she has carried as a victim and survivor of humanity’s most atrocious act, Eva, now 80, believes that only by standing up to hate and prejudice can we hope to create a better world.

Today she continues to relentlessly preach the values of remembrance and tolerance, in spite of an alarming rise in antisemitism.

She said: “What is happening around the world, and in this country, is extremely worrying. The only answer can be education. To try and educate, especially young people, to stand up against racism and prejudice.

“We only hear the bad news. We don’t tend to praise sufficiently all the wonderful work that has been done and continues to be done by various charitable organisations

“There are so many amazing young people doing their best in very difficult circumstances to try and counter all this prejudice.”

Eva, born to Czech-Jewish mother Anka Bergman and her German-Jewish architect father Bernd Nathan, is one of the youngest survivors of the Holocaust. In September 1944 Bernd was transported to Auschwitz – his wife volunteered to follow him but he did not know she was pregnant.

They lost baby son Dan, born in 1944, to pneumonia while held in the Theresienstadt ghetto in what is now the Czech Republic.

Eva’s father-in-law Kenneth, back centre, was an RAF navigator who took part in raids on Dresden

When Anka stepped through the gates of hell at Auschwitz she was met by “Angel of Death” Josef Mengele. The monstrous Nazi SS doctor demanded to know if she was pregnant – had she admitted it she would have been sent to the gas chamber.

But as her pregnancy was not visible and she was deemed fit to work, Anka was sent to a camp near Dresden before a three-week train journey to Mauthausen in Austria.

She was so shocked to see the name of the death camp she went into labour. Eva was born on April 29, 1945, a day after the Nazis ran out of gas to run their killing chambers and days before US troops liberated the site.

After the Second World War ended, mum and daughter returned to Prague. In 1948 Anka remarried and they settled in Cardiff.

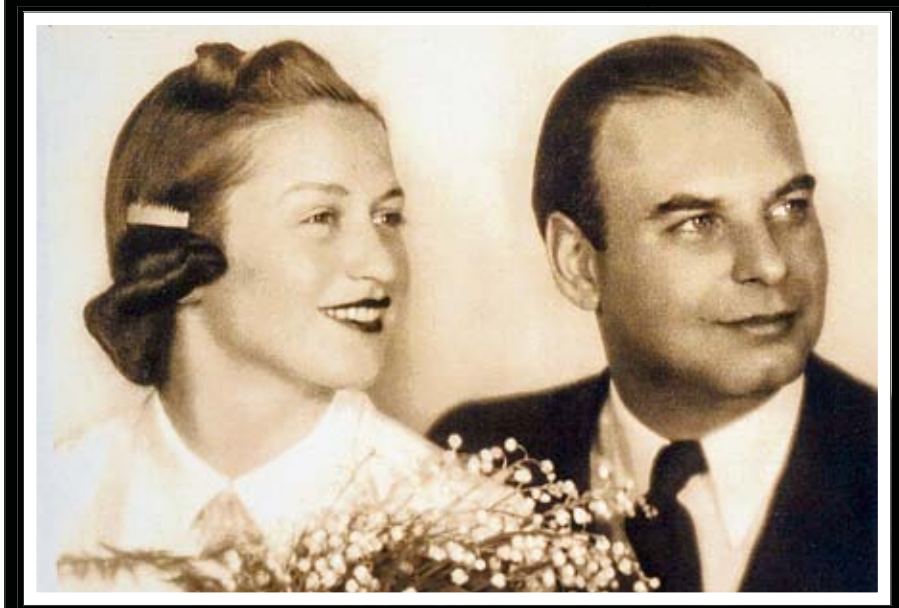
Eva went on to marry Malcolm Clarke, later a professor of law at Cambridge University, and they had two sons.

Today, on Holocaust Memorial Day, Eva will join other survivors to honour the memories of the six million Jews murdered in the state-sponsored genocide and the millions more killed under Nazi persecution.

Her birth certificate, testament to a life begun in hell, is displayed in The Holocaust Galleries at London’s Imperial War Museum – an enduring example of hope in adversity.

Eva said: “My mother always said she was screaming, not only because she was in labour but because she thought this was her very last minute on earth.

“The only thing I feel that I can do is to tell my mother’s story. Nobody can identify with six million Jews but everybody can identify with one or two families because then it becomes personal. I remember my mother saying one time ‘You know, there’s not always going to be a call for your talks’. And I said, ‘Mummy, I think that racism and prejudice and antisemitism is never going to go away. I feel it’s my duty, and I’m very glad to be able to do it’.”



From top left: Eva’s parents on their 1940 wedding day; she holds an antisemitic yellow star that the Nazis made Jews wear; with late mum Anka, sons and grandchildren

Eva was given the British Empire Medal in the 2019 New Year Honours List for her work to educate people about the slaughter, sharing her experiences through the Holocaust Educational Trust. It is a commitment she has vowed to continue in memory of her parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousin Peter who died in Auschwitz. Anka died in 2013, her husband in 2024.

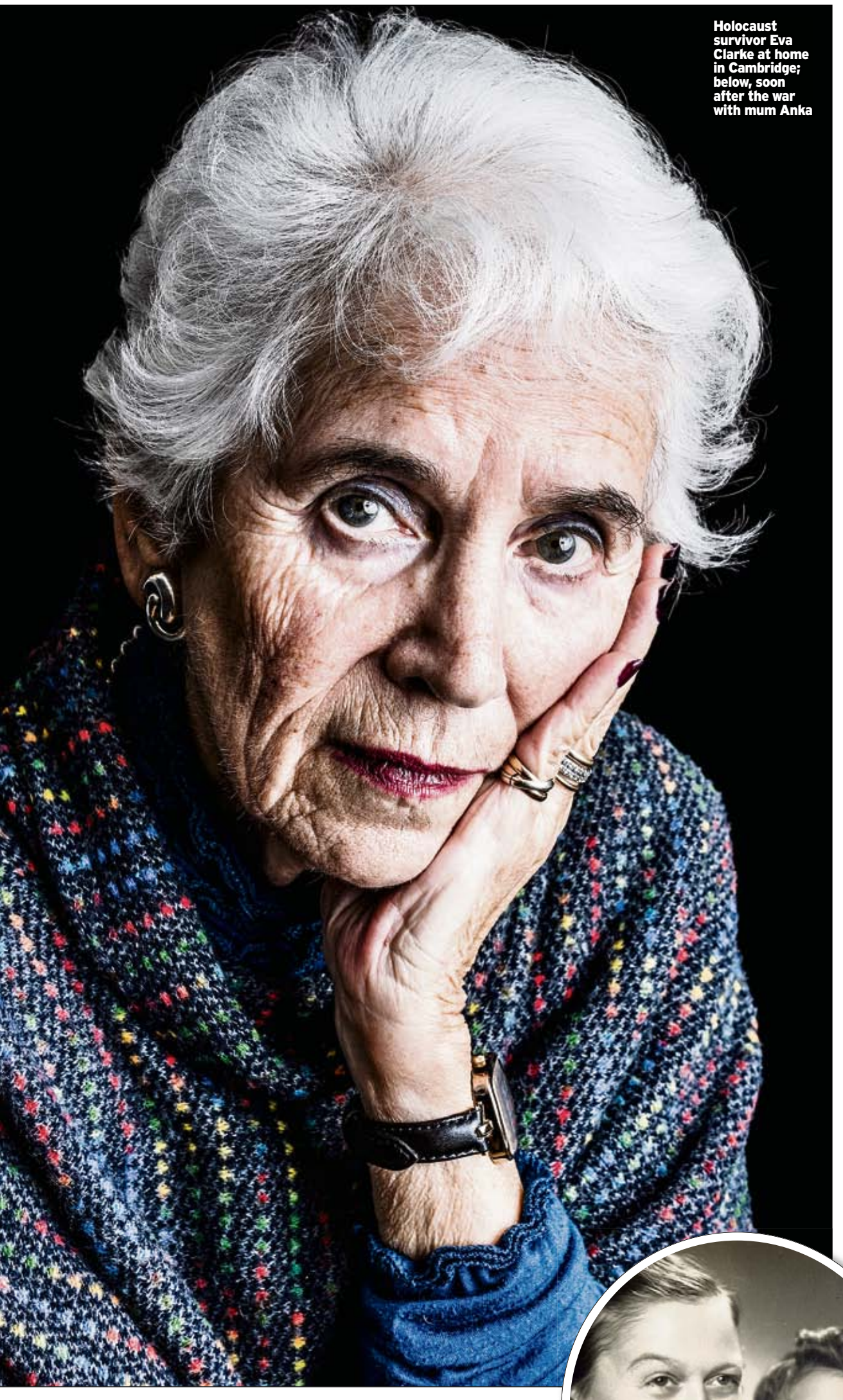
Eva’s dedication to peace and understanding comes as anti-Jewish hatred in Britain is at the highest recorded level.

Polls show that people holding what are considered to be entrenched antisemitic views now make up more than a fifth of the population. Almost half (45%) think that Israel treats Palestinians the same way as Germany’s Nazis treated Jews.

Hatred

While nearly one in two 18 to 24-year-olds are uncomfortable spending time with people who openly support Israel. One in 10 have a favourable view of Hamas, and almost a fifth consider its October 2023 kill-

SURVIVOR'S HOPE



Holocaust survivor Eva Clarke at home in Cambridge; below, soon after the war with mum Anka

Mala Tribich MBE at Auschwitz to mark 80th anniversary of liberation

ONE year ago I accompanied 94-year-old Holocaust survivor Mala Tribich MBE on a difficult journey to Auschwitz, a place synonymous with evil.

Mala was able to make the journey that most could not, as survivors of the Holocaust grow frailer and fewer in number.

She was there to represent the British Holocaust survivor community, to mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz where over a million men, women and children were murdered simply because they were Jewish.

Mala sat at the powerful ceremony that was broadcast live across the world, alongside heads of state, including King Charles, and among fellow survivors and their families.

She watched as the world pledged to always remember the horrors, to make "never again" ring true. A year on, I cannot help but reflect on that day. The 80th anniversary was undoubtedly a pivotal moment.

For that day, memory mattered and the Holocaust was part of the cultural zeitgeist, even if just for a moment. But as we mark this year's Holocaust Memorial Day, I am worried.

Because since the October 7 terrorist attack against Israel, the world around us has changed, irrevocably.

Antisemitism has reached proportions that I did not expect to see in my lifetime.

Day in and day out, anti-Jewish hatred has grown ever bolder and rhetoric has spilled into violence; including the deadly attacks on Jewish people on our holiest days – at Heaton Park Synagogue in Manchester on Yom Kippur and on Bondi Beach during Chanukah celebrations.

We see it in the protests on the streets where people call for the destruction of Israel, the only Jewish state; in the daubing of excrement on a synagogue. We see it in the cancellation of a Jewish MP's visit to a school due to fear of protests; in the news that the West Midlands Police force had reached a decision to ban Maccabi Tel Aviv fans from a game against Aston Villa based on myths and mistruths about the risks posed by Israeli fans.

We see it in the exclusion of Jewish students from campus activities, forced to run a gauntlet of hate just to get to classes. We have young people arriving in the classroom with views shaped by social media trends rather than historical knowledge. Some teachers are anxious about how their communities will respond when a Holocaust survivor shares their testimony, fearing a backlash from parents.

Antisemitism has reached proportions I did not expect in my lifetime

Our work at the Holocaust Educational Trust is embedded in schools across the country and has been for decades, which means that despite the challenges we face today, our engagement with schools has to continue.

We are grateful to all of the teachers who are continuing to prioritise this education, who know that the history of the Holocaust matters and its legacy is vital. It should not be an act of bravery to do so.

Some might want to reference the Holocaust as something simply of the past, but we know that the Holocaust cannot be taught in isolation.

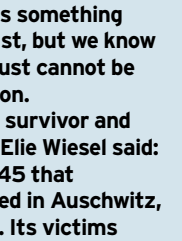
As Holocaust survivor and Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel said: "I thought in 1945 that antisemitism died in Auschwitz, but I was wrong. Its victims perished, antisemitism did not."

Today, we are at a crossroads. Eyewitnesses to the past are fading and the legacy of the past has to endure. The stories of people like Mala must continue.

COMMENT

KAREN POLLOCK

Executive of the Holocaust Education Trust



ing of 1,200 Israelis was justified. Almost exactly two years later, Adrian Daulby, 53, and Melvin Cravitz, 66, were killed in a Manchester antisemitic attack.

And yesterday in Parliament, a Tory former Cabinet minister warned Britain is "sleepwalking into disaster" as antisemitism grows. Lord Pickles, joint chair of the Holocaust Memorial Foundation, told peers: "Jew hatred" had to be confronted and stressed that more needed to be done than "light candles" on Holocaust Memorial Day.

He added: "We must ensure that our children, our grandchildren and those who survive in a multicultural Britain remember the Holocaust and remember what happens when government goes bad."

OPINION: PAGE 12

Crime scene at the park

Migrant is found guilty of raping drunk teen

BY **STEPHANIE WAREHAM**

AN asylum seeker has been found guilty of raping a "drunk and obviously vulnerable" woman in a park.

Sheraz Malik, 28, had claimed he had consensual sex with the teen victim, who was 18 at the time of the attack on June 29 last year.

But a jury returned unanimous guilty verdicts on two counts of rape at Birmingham crown court.

Malik was born in Pakistan and lived in Italy, Germany and France before coming to the UK.

The trial heard the woman had shared two bottles of vodka with a male friend before they met Malik and a group of other men, who she had never seen before and were sitting nearby.

Vulnerable

Her friend then asked the group to "look after her" while he went away to meet someone, the jury was told.

But the woman said she was then raped twice by two different men while alone with them in Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire.

Prosecution counsel Nicholas Corsellis KC said the complainant was "alone, drunk and was obviously a vulnerable person" and was raped by the first man, who has yet to be identified, as she relieved herself in an "isolated" spot.

She returned and was then taken to another "secluded" spot and raped by Malik.

The woman denied either of the encounters was consensual.

Police said another suspect was still being "relentlessly" sought.

Judge Simon Ash KC told Malik: "You have been convicted of very serious charges."

He ordered a pre-sentence report to "assess the level of dangerousness".

Malik was remanded in custody ahead of a hearing on February 6 to fix a sentence date.

PM DEFENDS DECISION

Starmer leaves his to go build bridges

BY **STEPH SPYRO**
Deputy Political Editor

Sir Keir Starmer stood by his decision to end a bid by Andy Burnham, right, to stand as an MP

KEIR Starmer flies to China tonight to woo president Xi Jinping while a Labour civil war rages at home.

The Prime Minister yesterday defended blocking Manchester mayor Andy Burnham from returning to Westminster as an MP.

He insisted it would "divert our resources" from the government's campaigns in the May elections.

But critics have accused Sir Keir, who is fleeing to Beijing, and his allies of ending Mr Burnham's candidacy for fear of a leadership challenge.

The PM believes the "battle of our times" is between Labour and Reform UK rather than within his own party.

But there is clear internal anger over the move to block Mr Burnham from standing in Gorton and Denton.

A 10-strong group from Labour's ruling National Executive Committee, including Sir Keir, voted to deny Mr Burnham permission to run in the Greater Manchester by-election on February 26 at a meeting on Sunday.

And yesterday, speaking at a health centre in Wimbledon, he said: "Andy Burnham is doing a great job as the Mayor of Manchester.

"But having an election for the Mayor of Manchester when it's not necessary would divert resources. Resources need to be focused on elections we must have, that we must win, not elections we don't have to have.

Focus

"That was the basis of the NEC decision. We have really important elections across England for local councils, very important elections in Wales for the government there and very important elections in Scotland that will affect millions of people.

"And we're out campaigning on the cost of living. We need all of our focus on those elections."

Speculation has persisted about the prospect of Sir Keir facing a leadership challenge if the party performs badly in May's local and devolved parliamentary elections.

Health Secretary Wes Streeting was forced to deny suggestions last November that he was hoping to unseat the PM after finding himself the target of a Labour briefing war over his perceived ambitions.

A well-placed Westminster source has told this newspaper that Mr Streeting could move against the Labour leader as soon as this week while he is abroad.

They said: "I'm hearing that Wes is plotting to move as soon as this week.

"Starmer's position is untenable now. It's going to happen sooner rather than later."

Sir Keir heads to China to boost trade before visiting Japan at the end of the week.

Meanwhile, Reform UK leader Nigel Farage said his party's chances in next month's by-election have been boosted thanks to Mr Burnham being out of the running.

The vote is taking place to find a replacement for Labour MP Andrew Gwynne who quit last week after suffering "significant ill health".

Mr Farage told reporters: "Burnham would have galvanised the anti-Starmer vote.

"He'd have pushed the turnout up and it would have been very difficult for us to beat him.

"I'm being absolutely frank about that. We might have come a good second. Now he's not there, I think the anti-Starmer vote will coalesce around us, so our chances have improved massively overnight.

"Is it a pushover? Of course it's not. It's rather like Runcorn.

"It's one of those traditional safe Labour seats with a big majority and it'll probably be very close.

Serious

"But are we now in with a serious shout? Absolutely."

Meanwhile, Mr Burnham insisted yesterday that he was "getting on with my job now" following the Labour saga.

He made just a brief comment after giving a speech during an event at Manchester's Whitworth Art Gallery.

As he entered a lift, he said: "I have said everything that I needed to say and I'm getting on with my job now."

Minutes earlier, he addressed an audience at the launch of a new report – called Class Ceiling – which highlighted how the region's working class are struggling to break into the arts world.

At the start of his speech, he quipped: "You've all probably been trying to escape the sight of me all weekend but here I am, Monday morning, fantastic to be here.

"I have read every single word of the report because I haven't had anything else to do this weekend."

TO READ ALL THE BEST POLITICAL STORIES OF THE DAY GO TO EXPRESS.CO.UK/POLITICS

TO BLOCK BURNHAM BID

party in turmoil with Beijing...

KEIR Starmer has tried to convince the public that the "battle of our times" lies between Labour and Reform UK.

But many in Westminster believe that there are still many wars to come within his own party.

The Prime Minister cleared one hurdle in the form of seeing off an immediate leadership challenge from Manchester mayor Andy Burnham, but he now faces another – can Labour hold the Gorton and Denton constituency?

The psychodrama of the Starmer-Burnham leadership battle would have run for weeks in the lead-up to May elections, risking policy being drowned out and Labour looking even more divided.

But while Sir Keir thinks that keeping the Burnham hat out of the leadership ring will solve his problems for now, he may be wrong. The decision could harden opposition against Sir Keir and make his job even more difficult in the coming months when he grapples with a pile of difficult issues such as the social media ban for under-16s and reforms to jury trials.

Westminster whispers suggest that Wes Streeting could make a move for pole position as soon as this week while Sir Keir woos China's president Xi Jinping in Beijing.

Sir Keir is due to be accompanied by business leaders as he seeks to improve trading relations with the superpower on the trip – the first by a British Prime Minister since Baroness Theresa May's visit in February 2018.

The PM faces pressure from home to raise several difficult subjects with the Chinese leader, including China's espionage activity and its treatment of the Uighur minority – as well as the imprisonment of Jimmy Lai, a Hong Kong pro-democracy campaigner and British national.

The visit marks a significant moment in Sir Keir's bid to build bridges with Beijing following a freeze in Sino-British relations in the final years of the previous Conservative administration.

It comes after controversial plans to build a Chinese mega-embassy in London were approved by the government last week.

ANALYSIS

STEPH SPYRO
Deputy Political Editor

Shabana Mahmood meets police officers in London

Policing 'will suffer' under new plans to merge forces

BY **MICHAEL KNOWLES** Home Affairs Editor

SHABANA Mahmood's radical policing plans will result in fewer officers and make the crime crisis worse, Shadow Home Secretary Chris Philp declared.

The Home Secretary yesterday confirmed she wants to drastically reduce the number of forces in England and Wales.

But Mr Philp warned: "999 response times and investigations will suffer as a result."

Ms Mahmood says Labour is ring-fencing the number of officers in neighbourhood policing roles, and vowed to take national responsibilities from local forces.

A new National Police Service will lead terrorist and serious and organised crime investigations. Local Policing Areas, meanwhile, will "deliver the majority of the policing the public see".

Some Chief Constables are already said to be against the proposals, amid fears towns grouped in with larger cities or areas could lose out. And victims could be forced to speak to AI chatbots, which will then decide which crimes need to be prioritised.

Transformation

Mr Philp said: "We have a crime crisis today. Shoplifting and phone theft are both surging upwards under this government – shoplifting is now the highest ever.

"Shops are being looted on a daily basis. Knife crime in London is up 80%.

"Sex crimes up 9%, rape up 6%, stalking up 5% and harassment up 6% under this Labour government.

"This requires action today – not in 2034. Structural reorganisation that will take almost 10 years is not an acceptable substitute for action now.

"The hard facts are this: Police numbers are falling on her watch, and 999 response times and crime investigations will suffer."

Ms Mahmood vowed to press ahead with plans and the first mergers are expected to happen within the next three years.

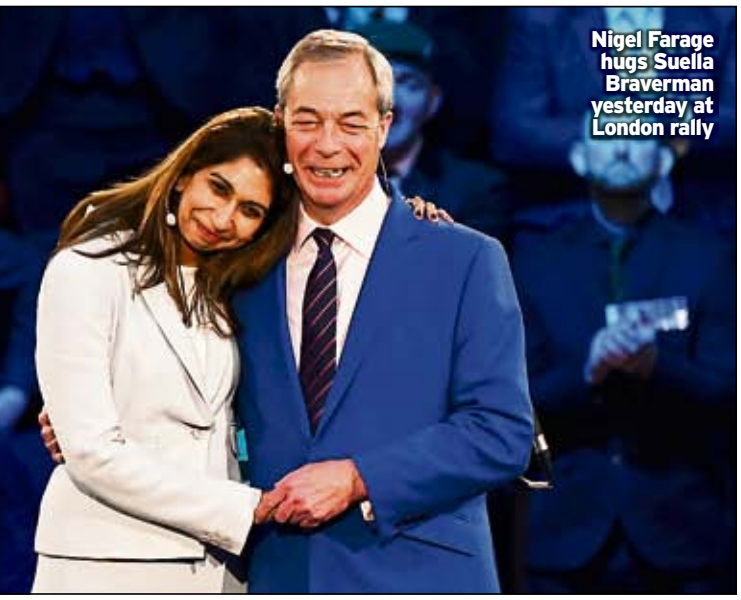
She told MPs: "These are, without question, major reforms.

"A transformation in the structures of our forces, the standards within them and the means by which they are held to account by the public, these are the most significant changes to how policing works in this country in around 200 years.

"The reforms will ensure we have the right policing happening in the right place."

Suella: Defecting is the only way we can fix broken Britain

Ex-Home Secretary latest to join Reform



Nigel Farage hugs Suella Braverman yesterday at London rally

BY **KATIE HARRIS**
Senior Political Correspondent

SUELLA Braverman said that she felt like she had "come home" yesterday as she became the latest senior Tory to defect to Reform.

The former Home Secretary was unveiled by her new party's leader Nigel Farage at a veterans' rally, and the Fareham and Waterlooville MP told them Britain "is indeed broken".

Mrs Braverman said: "Immigration is out of control. Our public services are on their knees. People don't feel safe. Our youngsters are leaving the country for better futures elsewhere.

"We can't even defend ourselves, and our nation stands weak and humiliated on the world stage. So we stand at a crossroads.

"We can either continue down this route of managed decline to weakness and surrender. Or we can fix our country, reclaim our power, rediscover our strength. I believe that a better Britain is possible.

Sacked

"I'm announcing that I resign the Conservative whip...and my party membership, my party membership of 30 years. It's gone. It's over.

"I am joining Reform UK. I feel like I've come home."

The ex-Cabinet minister insisted that her calls for the UK to leave the European Convention on Human Rights led to her being sacked and punished for "telling the truth".

Hitting out at her former party, she branded the Tories' current pledge that they will quit the treaty "a lie".

She said: "I'm calling time. I'm calling time on Tory betrayal. I'm calling time on Tory lies. I'm calling time on a party that keeps making promises with zero intention of keeping them."

Mrs Braverman praised Mr Farage as the only man in UK politics who has been "courageously consistent".

Her defection follows that of ex-immigration minister Robert Jenrick and gives Reform eight MPs in all.

Mr Farage said he had been speaking to Mrs Braverman for "just over a year" about the possibility of her switching sides.

The Reform leader, who had called her record on immigration "pathetic", added: "The government was a failure, but she's now prepared to put her hands up and say, 'We got it wrong'."

The Tories said Mrs Braverman's exit was always "when, not if".

A re-issued statement that removed a reference to her mental health said: "She says she feels that she has 'come home', which will come as a surprise to the people who chose not to elect a Reform MP in her constituency.

"There are some people who are MPs because they care about their communities and want to deliver a better country. There are others who do it for their personal ambition.

"Suella stood for leader of the Conservatives...and came sixth.

"She has now decided to try her luck with Nigel Farage, who said last year he didn't want her in Reform."

Labour said Mr Farage was taking more "failed Tories" into his party.

EXPRESS VOTE

Was Suella Braverman right to defect to Reform?

YES: 0901 133 4440
NO: 0901 133 4441
Calls cost 50p plus network access charge

Yes text DXYES to 63333
No text DXNO to 63333
Texts cost 50p plus standard network rate

You must have the bill payer's permission. Vote closes at midnight tonight. The Daily Express may contact you by post, SMS and/or email with offers, goods or services that may be of interest to you. To stop receiving SMS messages text 'NSNOINFO' to the originating number. SP: Spoke, 0333 202 3390.

Farage promises to pardon veterans convicted over Troubles accusations

BY **KATIE HARRIS**

A REFORM UK government would pardon veterans convicted for their roles during Northern Ireland's Troubles, Nigel Farage has pledged.

The Reform leader also promised to end current prosecutions of ex-servicemen and women at a rally yesterday where he launched the party's new veterans wing.

Mr Farage said: "I promise you a Reform government will end all of these vexatious claims taken against our veterans from conflict after conflict. And for those who've been found guilty under very dubious codes of the Human Rights Act we will grant a royal pardon of mercy on their names."

Mr Farage said there must "never again" be a case like ex-soldier Dennis Hutchings, who died while on trial over a fatal shooting in 1974.

He said the 80-year-old was "hounded until the day he died".

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Victim Lilia Valutyte, nine

Girl stabbed in heart as she played in the street

BY **SOPHIE ROBINSON**

A SCHIZOPHRENIC man stabbed a girl of nine through the heart with a knife while she was playing with a hula hoop in the street, a murder trial has heard.

Lilia Valutyte was outside a shop where her mother was working when she was killed by Deividas Skebas, 26.

He had moved legally back to the UK from Lithuania just weeks before the attack in Boston, Lincs, on July 28, 2022.

Skebas denies murdering Lilia but admits manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility.

Jurors were told there is no dispute that Skebas stabbed and killed Lilia, but they must decide what the defendant's state of mind was when he killed her. Prosecutor Christopher Donnellan KC told Lincoln crown court yesterday: "This deliberate murder was clearly a wicked act.

"He knew his conduct was wrong. He knew he was killing a child."

He added: "The street, which was not accessible to through-traffic, was empty. Lilia was playing with a hula hoop."

Skebas waited while pedestrians moved on then hurried his steps and "put the knife straight into the middle of Lilia", the court heard.

Mr Donnellan added: "The force appears to have knocked her back towards some shutters on the adjoining shop."

The prosecutor added: "That stab wound went straight through her heart and she fell there in the street. He ran off."

The trial continues.

Accused Deividas Skebas, 26

A federal agent in Minneapolis, main, and a mass demonstration against ICE agents in Chicago, above, following the shooting dead of Alex Pretti, below. Bottom, President Trump

I don't like shooting, says Trump after ICE killing

DONALD Trump claimed to not like shooting as he sent his border tsar to Minneapolis after intensive care nurse Alex Pretti was killed by federal agents.

The 37-year-old was shot at least 10 times by Trump's Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers, just 17 days after mum-of-three Renee Good was gunned down in her car.

Vigils

Candelit vigils have been held for Mr Pretti, whose death sparked huge angry protests in Minneapolis, and other cities such as Chicago, over claims the White House has been untruthful about what happened.

President Trump announced the deployment of Tom Homan to oversee ICE operations in Minnesota.

In a Truth Social message, he said the border chief would report directly to him, adding: "[Homan] has not been involved in that area, but knows and likes many of the people there. Tom is tough but fair."

BY **CHRISTOPHER BUCKTIN** US Editor

Mr Trump said ICE would be withdrawn from Minneapolis but gave no timeline. Speaking for the first time about Mr Pretti's death, he said: "We're looking, we're reviewing everything and will come out with a determination. I don't like any shooting. I don't like it. But I don't like it when somebody goes into a protest and he's got a very powerful, fully loaded gun with two magazines loaded up with bullets also. That doesn't play good either."

Critics say sending in Mr Homan may inflame the crisis. Minnesota Governor Tim Walz has called in the National Guard and accused the federal government of escalating, not calming, tensions.

He said: "Donald Trump needs to pull these 3,000 untrained agents out of Minnesota before they kill another person."

Mr Walz spoke with the President following the shooting and, in a bid to defuse a political and social crisis, Mr Trump said he would look at cutting the number of agents in Minnesota and working with the state on immigration enforcement.

Minneapolis City Council member Soren Stevenson said: "The chaos in our community is coming from ICE... and it's got to stop."

There has been growing tension between Mr Homan and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem over the running of ICE and calls for her to resign or be sacked.

The administration has closed ranks over the agent involved in the shooting with Ms Noem claiming Mr Pretti was shot as he was "brandishing" a gun. But local officials flatly deny this, insisting the firearm was legally registered. They also said Mr Pretti told agents he was carrying a gun and he was shot after it had been removed.

Video footage and eyewitness accounts have only deepened the controversy.

Footage seen by the Express appears to show an agent removing Mr Pretti's gun while he was face down before he was shot by another at point blank range.

Angry

Protesters have targeted a Minneapolis hotel believed to be housing federal agents.

Windows were smashed and walls daubed with "ICE OUT OF MPLS" graffiti.

Mr Pretti's family said they were "heartbroken but also very angry".

Ex-president Barack Obama called the killing a "heartbreaking tragedy" and warned that core American values were under attack.

Young children's tribute to expat mother found stabbed to death

MURDERED British hairdresser Victoria Hart's three young children were comforted by relatives as they let off white balloons in memory of their mum during a minute's silence outside her local Spanish town hall.

The 33-year-old's grief-stricken mother Sue and sister Jemma also attended yesterday's ceremony.

It came two days after she was stabbed to death at the home she shared with her 11-year-old son and two seven-year-old twin girls in Alhaurín el Grande, near Marbella, Andalusia.

Victoria's estranged husband Juan Antonio Rueda, who handed himself in to police at a local prison shortly after the Saturday morning killing and confessed to doing something "very bad", remains in custody and is due to appear in court today.

Knife victim Victoria Hart

BY **GERARD COUZENS**

Hundreds of locals including both Spanish and British residents attended the gathering, including pupils at the school her three children attended.

Alhaurin Town Hall also held a day of mourning for Victoria who moved to Spain from Solihull in the West Midlands when she was a teenager.

A GoFundMe appeal had raised more than £20,000 by yesterday evening.

Organiser and friend Maxine Hill said: "Victoria lived for her children. She fought for them with everything she had, and they were her whole world.

"Now those children are facing a future without her love, protection and care."

17 dead in US winter storm

Picture: AL DRAGO/GETTY

Enjoying snow in New York City and DC

Clearing an NFL field of snow midgame in Denver, Colorado

AT least 17 people have died and hundreds of thousands lack power after a major storm in the US.

More than 180 million people have been left struggling in the grips of a deep Arctic freeze that has ground most US states, including New York, Kentucky and Boston, to a near-standstill.

A business jet flipped upside down and caught fire killing seven of the eight people inside as it tried to take off in a snowstorm at Maine's Bangor International Airport. Up to 14,400 flights have been cancelled across 37 states since the weekend, 17 of which have declared a state of emergency as snow piles up and temperatures descend to lows of -46C.

But some hardy souls braved the chill in skis and snowboards in New York and Washington DC while snow had to be blown off the pitch at an NFL game in Denver.

Meanwhile, the Met Office says Storm Chandra will bring strong winds, heavy rain and snow across much of the UK today. Flooding and travel disruption are likely.

BY **CHARLIE BRADLEY**

British Gas
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When the cold arrives, so do we.
Last year, we reached 233,660 people with no heating or hot water, on the same day when they contacted us before 11am.
Search British Gas boiler repairs.
Based on 2025 performance data, 80% of customers with no heating or hot water who contacted us before 11am received same day call-outs.

A bus is checked in Morocco and a border check in Bolivia, inset. Far left, from top, a vehicle check in North Macedonia, seized items linked to other crimes and a Uruguayan boat is boarded by officers

3,744 arrested in global people-smuggling blitz

BY **PAUL JEEVES** Crime Editor

MORE than 4,000 victims of human trafficking and 13,000 illegal migrants have been detected in one of the biggest global people-smuggling operations.

Shock discoveries included primary school age children being forced to work in a glass factory in Belize, a young girl sold to a 73-year-old man in El Salvador and a boy of eight kidnapped for organ removal in Mozambique.

Some 3,744 suspects were arrested in Operation Liberterra III, which was led by Interpol and covered 119 countries.

Of these, more than 1,800 were detained for alleged human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

Law enforcement agencies including the UK's National Crime Agency mobilised more than 14,000 officers, conducting surveillance, targeted raids and reinforced border controls.

Meanwhile, 720 new probes are now under way.

Valdecy Urquiza, Interpol secretary general, said: "The level of enforcement action highlights strong co-operation, but the wider trends are just as important.

Patterns

"Criminal networks are evolving, exploiting new routes, digital platforms and vulnerable populations. Identifying these patterns allows law enforcement to anticipate threats, disrupt networks earlier and better protect victims."

Major findings include trafficking-fuelled scam schemes.

These remain a serious concern in Asia and Africa, but improved intelligence, detection and screening mechanisms are resulting in more arrests and hundreds of victims being repatriated.

Levels of sexual exploitation remain high, forced labour and forced criminality are increasing, while domestic servitude and organ removal were detected.

Meanwhile, migration patterns in the Americas have largely reversed, with South American nationals now travelling southward through Central America.

But the findings show there is continued pressure along Atlantic and Mediterranean maritime routes, particularly from West and North Africa toward Europe.

Authorities are increasingly relying on online monitoring to detect and track trafficking and smuggling networks. The vile trade is closely linked to crimes such as document fraud, money laundering and drug trafficking.

Four operational co-ordination units were established in the UK, Algeria, El Salvador and Laos to support real-time checks against Interpol databases, share intelligence and issue Interpol notices.

In co-ordinated responses to this intelligence, authorities carried out multiple actions against suspected scam centres in Asia, with a strong focus on Myanmar, where a single raid uncovered 450 workers in a compound.

Suffering

Electronic devices linked to scam activity, including 18,800 mobile phones and more than 300 computers, were seized.

Behind the operational results are thousands of individual stories of suffering and resilience.

Police Scotland safeguarded a Romanian national trafficked to the UK under false promises of employment and subjected to sexual exploitation.

Transported across Europe, then brought to Scotland by ferry, her ID documents were withheld once she arrived in Dundee.

In Spain, authorities dismantled a criminal network trafficking women for sexual exploitation through beauty salons and massage parlours in Barcelona and Marbella, identifying 21 victims.

The women, mostly of Colombian origin, had been subjected to constant surveillance, abuse and forced to repay debts of £5,200 through prostitution at accommodation which was also used for drug sales.

Authorities intercepted multiple high-risk sea departures involving large groups of migrants travelling in overcrowded vessels with minimal safety equipment.

Exploited

One interception involved 245 migrants departing from Senegal, with further cases recorded off the coasts of Guinea-Bissau, Morocco and Algeria.

And in Europe, while stopping vehicles at the border with Moldova, Romanian officials scanned an incoming truck declared to be carrying metal parts.

It uncovered hidden military weapons, including rocket and grenade launchers, ammunition and combat drone components.

Two individuals were detained in Moldova and the driver was held in Romania. While the case was not directly linked to migration offences, it highlights how the same routes are exploited for different forms of smuggling.

Don't use tear gas on migrants, French told

EXCLUSIVE

BY **MICHAEL KNOWLES** and **PETER ALLEN** in Paris

PLANS to intercept Channel migrant boats were thrown into chaos after the French government was told to rewrite the rules given to officers.

The human rights watchdog in Paris, the Defender of Rights, told gendarmes to stop using rubber bullets and tear gas to prevent asylum seekers climbing into dinghies bound for Britain.

And interior minister Laurent Nunez has been "invited" to overhaul the rules and training given to officers on the Channel coastline, the Express can reveal. This could hit plans to intercept migrant dinghies in the water.

French officers had been nervous about intercepting migrants amid fears over a lack of training but they intercepted a dinghy last Saturday.

Claire Hedon, of the Defender of Rights in Paris, claimed the use of armed force "endangers people", and has contributed to deaths and serious injuries among migrants. She wrote: "The objective of preventing departures is understandable given the danger of the crossing, and law enforcement plays a protective role, but this cannot be done at any cost."

Policeman with gas canister

Her report, from December, denounces the use of "rubber bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades" against migrants.

BRITONS HELD IN CALAIS OVER 'DEMO'

TWO Britons arrested in France had gone there to join banned "anti-migrant" protests, according to French officials.

The pair were held in Calais on Sunday night while posting a video that allegedly included "discriminatory remarks".

Regional officials had issued a ban on people travelling to "stop the boats" gatherings known as Operation Overlord. The duo are likely to be ordered to leave France and return to the UK.

The Pas-de-Calais prefecture said: "Internal security forces arrested two British nationals... during an identity check."

BY **STANLEY MURPHY-JOHNS**

DAILY EXPRESS

One Canada Square, London E14 5AP
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We will remember and honour those lost to unspeakable horrors

THE unspeakable acts of the Holocaust are incomprehensible to most in the world today.

During the Second World War, the Nazis embarked on a programme of state-sponsored genocide so vast that six million Jews were slaughtered in all.

The industrialised extermination of a race – chillingly known as The Final Solution – was brought to the attention of the world in graphic and gruesome detail by those who survived evil without compare.

Their number might grow smaller with each passing year but the message they continue to spread is perhaps more important now than at any point since 1945.

Those who lived through hell on earth, and relatives of those who did not, have sought to regularly remind us of where such unchecked hatred can lead. As we mark Holocaust Memorial Day, and against the backdrop of an increasingly unstable world, their collective prompt is more prescient than ever.

Anti-Jewish hatred has existed since the horrors of the Holocaust, but it reared its head again in the aftermath of the Israel-Hamas war which erupted after the October 7 massacre of 2023.

Vitriol and violence have been open and evident in almost every city in the world since, and notably London, where tens of thousands of Jews sought safety and sanctuary and rebuilt their lives after the war. Antisemitism is not of a different generation, nor does it belong to another part of the world. It is everywhere.

Two years after the October 7 attacks Adrian Daulby, 53, and Melvin Cravitz, 66, were killed in a terror attack that targeted the Heaton Park synagogue in Manchester on Yom Kippur.

And on December 14 in Australia, 11 men, three women and a 10-year-old girl were slaughtered in an Islamic State-inspired killing spree on Bondi Beach during the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah.

These appalling incidents go against tolerance, acceptance and peace – values every Jew stands for. But they are the predictable outcome of our collective failure to call out and crush undiluted bile spouted by zealots who want to fan the flames of hatred in their call for the globalisation of the intifada.

And so today we must reflect on the words and wisdom of Eva Clarke, one of the youngest survivors of the Holocaust.

She was born in 1945 to a mother who was transported to the notorious Mauthausen concentration camp at which she was to be put to death. Her survival was a miracle and her daughter's message of hope is her legacy.

Fifteen members of Eva's family were slaughtered at Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Nazi warehouse of death in Poland, including her father, who was shot one week before the camp was liberated.

Yet Eva, 80, still preaches hope, not hostility. It is our duty on Holocaust Memorial Day to remember those lost to mankind's unimaginable barbarity and to honour their courage.

Today, the world stands with Eva and all Holocaust survivors as we reaffirm our commitment that never again will such evil be allowed to go unchecked.

Need for Holocaust memorial is more urgent than ever

Artist's impression of a London Holocaust Memorial in Victoria Tower Gardens

Angela Epstein
Guest Columnist

ANYONE who has had the immense privilege of listening, first hand, to a Holocaust survivor recount their harrowing wartime experiences will know that their shattering testimony carries an urgent imperative: never forget the six million men, women, children and babies murdered in a grotesque act of state-sponsored extermination simply for being Jewish.

Yet, meeting survivors – as I have had the honour of doing many times over the years through working with a Holocaust memorial charity – carries something beyond grief and remembrance. It yields an overwhelming sense of awe.

How is it possible to be in the same room as someone who knows what it is to be crammed on to a cattle truck, dehumanised in the concentration camps, separated from beloved parents or siblings with the casually cruel flick of an SS officer's hand, or to have seen the black smoke of the crematoria spiralling into the night sky?

I remember one remarkable gentleman rolling up his sleeve to reveal the number that had been inked on to his arm on arrival at Auschwitz. With his permission, I asked if I could touch the tattoo – perhaps an instinctive, futile desire to stroke away the pain. But also to grasp, physically, the connection between myself, a Jewish woman who, born decades after the war, escaped the Holocaust, and those who did not.

TODAY, it will be 81 years since Auschwitz was liberated, a date marked annually by Holocaust Memorial Day. Yet with each passing year, the number of survivors taking part – witnesses to the bleakest moment in human history – dwindles.

That's why, despite countless books, films and documentaries on the Holocaust, the need for a standalone centre of remembrance and education in the UK has become ever more urgent. One was indeed given the green light back in 2015.

Yet more than a decade after the UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre was first proposed, following David Cameron's launch of the Prime Minister's Holocaust Commission, not a single piece of earth has been turned.

Such delay is unconscionable – especially now, as antisemitism surges in the UK, inflamed by the aftermath of the monstrous Hamas massacre of October 7 (a grim irony given the atrocity marked the largest number of Jews killed in a single day since the Holocaust).

Meanwhile, it has been revealed that the number of secondary schools marking Holocaust Memorial Day this year has more than halved. Whether through appeasement or hard-Left orthodoxy, the ground for denial and dismissal is dangerously fertile.

This is precisely why bricks and mortar matter. A Holocaust memorial and learning centre would serve as a lasting tribute and an irrefutable educational resource – honouring the six million Jews as well as all other victims of Nazi persecution, including Roma, LGBTQ+ people, and disabled individuals.

It would confront the world's failure to offer sanctuary to Jewish refugees and expose the catastrophic consequences of silence in the face of hatred. Yet in a country bristling with museums dedicated to everything from coal mining to video games, nothing has happened.

Delays have largely been due to objections over the proposed site at Victoria Tower Gardens, beside Parliament. Critics cite concerns about congestion, security and loss of green space.

Others counter argue that a world-leading Holocaust memorial belongs at the very heart of democracy. There has also been criticism of the design and cost.

Within the last few days, however, it appears the sclerotic state of affairs may at last have been broken, with the UK Holocaust Memorial Bill receiving Royal Assent.

It does not mean a full go-ahead – a new decision on the planning application will still be required – but at least it is a declaration of intent.

'Now the ground for denial and dismissal is dangerously fertile'

PERSONALLY, I don't care where the memorial is located, so long as it is accessible, and impossible to ignore. What matters is that it is visible and it is built to fulfil the pledge we make to survivors.

A Holocaust memorial and learning centre is far more than a building – it is a moral imperative. We cannot allow it to be stalled any more.

The longer we do so, the more we betray the ghosts of Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, and Treblinka – condemning those millions of souls to a second death if we forget their suffering or the devastating lessons from history.

Esther McVey

The voice of common sense

Martyr Burnham's a real night-mayor

DOES anyone believe a word Manchester windbag Andy Burnham says? Andy "Starmer with a northern accent" Burnham is the man who was so desperate to become Mayor of Greater Manchester that he gave up being an MP to do it. Now he is apparently so desperate to

become an MP that he wanted to give up being the Mayor of Greater Manchester midterm to do that instead.

Burnham doesn't care about Manchester, Keir Starmer, the country or the people of Gorton and Denton. He only cares about massaging his own ego. And Starmer has played right into his hands and blocked him standing in the by-election – making him a modern Manchester martyr.

Short-changed by Keir's silver lining

KOWTOW Keir Starmer heads to Beijing this week for some more breadcrumbs from President Xi's banqueting table. The visit comes hot on the heels of him granting China a super embassy in London, with its 208 basement rooms and easy access to sensitive City of London data.

Rachel Reeves' visit last November, after her economy-crashing Budget, delivered a pitiful £600m. I wonder how much Starmer's super embassy capitulation will get him. Thirty pieces of silver would be the most appropriate amount.

Starmer set to cop for another U-turn

THE ink hasn't even dried on Labour's latest announcement and yet we can confidently predict it will result in another U-turn. Keir Starmer's latest disaster is to propose restructuring the police forces of England and Wales.

The aim is to reduce the number of forces from 43 to 12, then add on top a new "National Police Service" to deal with counter-terrorism, fraud and organised crime. Perhaps the PM is unaware that we already have the intelligence services – the Serious Fraud Office and the National Crime Agency to deal with those things.

This idea isn't even new. It's a rehash of a failed Tony Blair policy from 20 years ago. Labour went down this road in 2006 before performing a handbrake turn and chucking it in the dustbin.

According to Police Minister Sarah Jones, this major restructuring was needed because murder and serious crime have fallen whereas everyday low-level crimes are up. If that's the case, why increase regional and national level forces?

Surely that means more local policing is needed. The other argument given is that fewer police forces will lead to better buying power, but surely economies of scale and central purchasing can be insisted upon within the current force structures.

Last week I met with my local Cheshire Police Chief Constable who is looking to increase the number of neighbourhood police officers by 60 to replace up to 60 PCSOs they may have to lose.

The reasons were telling. The force needs more bobbies on the beat with the powers of arrest and stop and search – which PCSOs can't do – because the level of crime is rising.

On top of that, due to Labour's Sentencing Bill, which will stop criminals with sentences of less than 12 months going to prison, our officers are going to be required to "man mark" these criminals. This requires extra officers and will cost the Cheshire force approximately £1.6million a year.

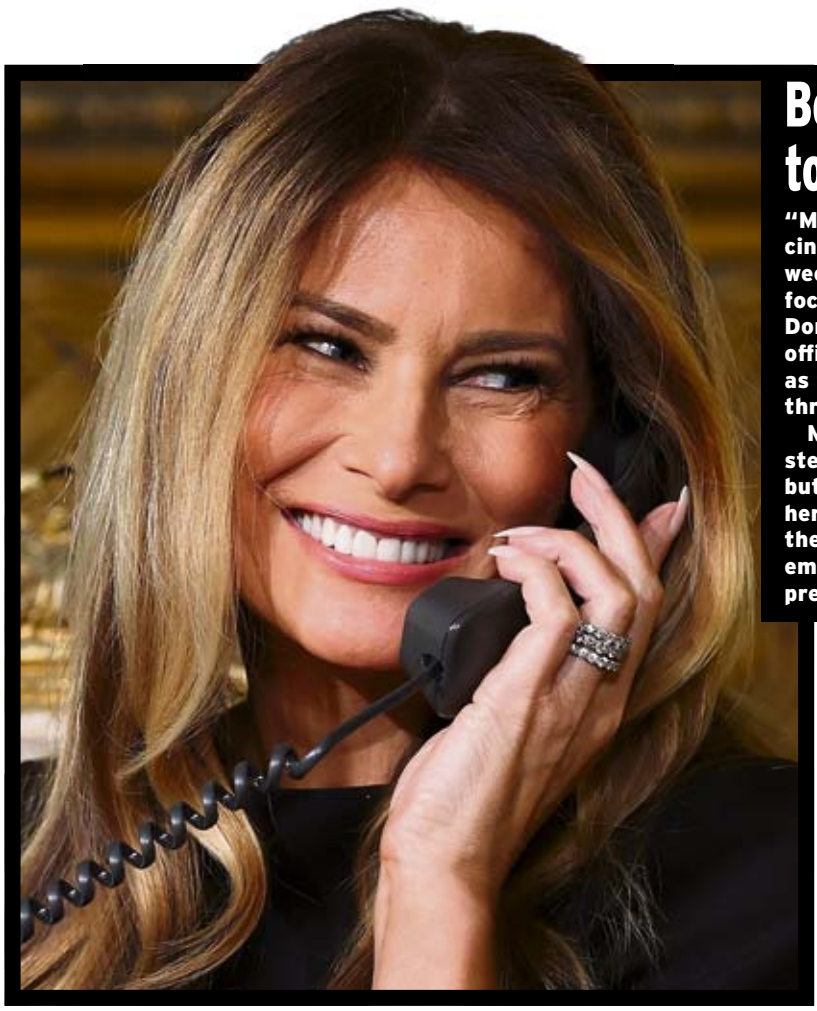
Cheshire are already set to receive £3million less in core grant funding this year than they expected, and they will be losing millions of pounds, like all police forces, due to Rachel Reeves' ill-thought through increase in employers' national insurance contributions. The last thing they need is to see resources and officers siphoned off to pay for a pointless reorganisation.

Blair backed down on police restructuring because the downsides overshadowed any upsides. The argument of efficiencies failed because the cost of restructuring greatly outweighed any financial benefits, and the same applies now.

A new National Police Service might sound good but in reality police will become more remote from local people, and people in small towns and villages will be abandoned as officers get sucked exclusively into the cities.

David Davis, as Shadow Home Secretary, won with these arguments 20 years ago and Blair's government performed a U-turn.

Unfortunately for Starmer, David Davis is still in Parliament, and I see him leading the charge again.



Box office Barron to star in dynasty

"MELANIA" is to be shown in cinemas across the US this week. The documentary focuses on the 20 days around Donald Trump's return to office, showing the First Lady as the power behind the throne.

Many see this as her stepping out from his shadow, but I wonder if it's more about her helping their son Barron to the White House. Is this the emergence of the Trump family presidential dynasty?

WHAT will it take for the penny to drop and for Keir Starmer to exit the European Convention on Human Rights and scrap the Human Rights Act to stop illegal immigration?

It seems even thousands of protesters at Crowborough on Sunday, chanting about him being a traitor over the town's former army camp being turned into a migrant centre, hasn't got through to him.

Until he wakes up to the fact that large-scale and illegal immigration is the biggest issue in the country at the moment, and takes some meaningful action to tackle it, he is doomed.

Ultimately it doesn't even matter about Andy Burnham, his plotting cabinet or his fed-up backbenchers. It will be the verdict of the public that will seal his fate.

RACHEL FROM ACCOUNTS DOUBLES DOWN ON LOSING BET PANDERING TO PURITANS

I WAS shocked to discover last week that global illegal gambling amounts to $5.9trillion. If it was a country it would be the third biggest economy in the world behind the US and China.

In fact 78% of all gambling around the world is illegal making it the single biggest global criminal activity. Only someone as stupid as Rachel Reeves would respond by doubling the tax on legal online gambling companies in the UK as she did in the Budget, which will only fuel the illegal market. The useless UK Gambling Commission (GC) has created the space for illegal gambling in the UK by over-regulating legal firms to pander to puritan anti-gambling zealots. And yet the government has now handed the GC £26million to tackle something that they have helped create.

Do I think they're all clueless? You bet!

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Mieka Smiles

Local Matters

I RUN my life by a to-do list. Whenever I feel that creeping sense of overwhelm, I take a blank piece of paper and write down – with a freshly sharpened pencil – all the things that I have to get through. Then, one by one, I tick things off. Progress is made. Control is restored.

As a councillor, journalist and mum of two, this tactic hasn't just helped me survive. It has crystallised the absolute necessity of having a plan.

When I was first elected seven years ago, as deputy mayor I wish I'd pushed harder for this kind of disciplined approach in local government: a short list of two or three priorities that must be delivered, whatever crazy challenge lands in your lap.

So, in the spirit of the humble to-do list, I thought I would offer Kemi Badenoch a modest couple of suggestions for hers, following the defection of Robert Jenrick, who, despite my disappointment in regards to his integrity, was a real force within the Party. And now there's another high-profile, albeit not wholly shocking, defection in Suella Braverman.

I'm sure she's waiting on bated breath to hear from a random Middlesbrough councillor on how she should steer the party! But I reckon my thoughts are pretty typical of that Red Wall voter who helped Boris soar to unprecedented victory in 2019. So here goes.

STEP OUTSIDE WESTMINSTER

Levelling up was key to towns like ours after years of being ignored under Labour's complacency. Reviving town centres, ridding them of a plague of shoplifting parasites, supporting pubs and shops and putting any government heft behind major job creators.

Despite his trouble remaining loyal, Jenrick did show he understood towns like mine. It'd be foolish to ditch us now.

CLEAR BLUE WATER - LITERALLY

Reform seems chuffed that they are attracting power-hungry MPs from both sides of the political divide. But this is not sustainable or desirable. They can't please everyone.

So let's double down on what we actually believe in: personal responsibility, fairness and working hard. We need to get a lazy chunk of Britain off the sofa and give the benefit bludgers a kick up the behind. We believe in a safety net, of course, but that's not healthy long term – for the nation, or, in fact, for anyone.

GROWN-UP DECENCY

At the top of any politician's to-do list should be finally cracking migration, which has us creaking at the seams. I admire Nigel Farage's will to finally fix it. But I think there's also something to be said about just making sure we are the grown-ups in the room, that people trust and respect. Not a one-issue party reliant on rage.

Zia Yusuf, Reform's head of policy, recently slammed opposing politicians who are polite to each other in TV green rooms, calling them "Britain-hating traitors".

Come on. Real leadership isn't about performative outrage. It's about discipline, delivery and getting things done.

IT'S great to hear that work experience could be making a proper comeback. At my comprehensive school, it was a rite of passage, and now Labour is promising that young people who have been out of a job or education for 18 months will be offered a guaranteed paid work placement. Great.

Within my National Record of Achievement – a brown pleather file bestowed on millennials to woo would-be employers – a teacher recounted my time as a chambermaid, hinting it was my calling. Which would have been fine, if it had actually had taken place!

I did, however, help at the front desk at a famous Northern hotel and nightclub – The Tall Trees – and got that first glimpse into what a real job involves, and that's essential.

IT WOULD be remiss of me not to mention the one news story that left me kind of open-mouthed last week.

Nope – not Trump and his bizarre ramblings, not the backstabbing games going on in politics, but the bombshell Instagram statement from Brooklyn Beckham. Wow.

My news consumption growing up was punctuated with Beckham goings-on – and I still vividly remember poring over the story when the Rebecca Loos exclusive broke.

It seems more than 20 years later, the family still has the capacity to dominate headlines in spectacular fashion. And, for my sins, I'm one of those soaking it all up.

mieka.smiles@reachplc.com

Susie Dent and Alan Carr

Heartwarming hunt for Britain's brightest sparks

BY **NICOLA METHVEN**

ALAN Carr and Susie Dent's new competition Secret Genius will unearth players who have IQs on a par with Albert Einstein, Marie Curie and Stephen Hawking - but just never knew it.

Dubbed "Bake Off with brains", the series stars some of the nation's most ordinary and yet cleverest people who are a world apart from the polished and super-confident contestants on The Apprentice or Love Island.

"There's no one with turkey teeth, no one with abs," Alan laughed. "This is a different kind of person. They do not want to be in the limelight. They don't want to steal my job.

"But they would like a second chance, and they would like a bit of fulfilment. Viewers are going to fall in love with these people, I can just tell."

Instead of bragging about their business prowess or astonishing good looks, these gifted players have been put forward for the series because they have enormous brains - but have not always been comfortable with their intelligence.

When the show starts on Sunday, with the first of four regional heats, viewers will discover that many players suffer from chronic confidence issues. But as they come together to tackle a series of complex logic games and challenges - set by Mensa - they not only grow in confidence, they find joy from each other.

Outcasts

Alan, 49, said: "I'm hoping for a second series and also a Secret Genius wedding," he laughed.

"I think that would be great because you could see that their eyes lit up with - 'oh, I'm not alone.'"

Countdown star Susie, 61, agreed that it had been wonderful to see how the group had bonded. "There were some lovely recognition moments as they found their tribe - finally, some people that were like them. They'd always thought they were quite odd for remembering number plates or bus time tables and finally they had found someone else who did exactly the same thing - that was lovely."

The Countdown star said that most of the players had been put forward by friends and family rather than pushing themselves forwards. She found that seeing their confidence grow over the course of the series was staggering.

"There are some jaw dropping moments. When you see how quickly they do these really, really hard tests, your jaw just hits the floor."

Alan said he could relate to the group feeling like outsiders having started filming just one day after his triumph on Celebrity Traitors - where he had experienced similar feelings. "I'd gone from this judging, stereotyping, underestimation and there had been a lot of judging," he said. "You can't blame them because that's part of the game, isn't it? And then here we are, all these people who've been underestimated for their whole lives, by their family, by their employer, by their friends, by teachers. And I was like, 'oh yeah, I sort of know how you feel really'. Then watching them grow and the doubt melt away. I mean, it was so lovely. It's a warm, fun show."

Sarah learns she has the same IQ as Stephen Hawking and Stephen Fry

Executive producer Jon Cahn said that the pair had been chosen carefully as hosts. "We were looking for the alchemy of brains and humour to make sure that it was warm and accessible," he explained. "The way we like to think about it is Bake Off with brains."

The duo are hoping that 2026 could be the "year of the underdog" when it comes to the people we celebrate on TV. The 48 competitors have completely normal jobs like hotel receptionist, HGV driver, restaurant manager,carpenter, and prison chaplain.

But by the end of the six-part series over half of them had gone in a new direction, buoyed by the confidence that taking part in the show had given them. Examples include Ollie, in episode one, who decides to get her A-levels and aim for a medical degree.

Ollie decided to go back to education

Another, from later in the series, is Sarah, a stay-at-home mum with "zero confidence". Susie says she was thrilled to let her know that her intelligence level was equal to Steven Hawking or Stephen Fry.

"She just burst out crying, And then - she was off camera, but I literally watched her - she just had the biggest smile on her face. So that for me was such a moment because she genuinely had no idea."

Sarah is now working as a teacher for gifted children.

Woman's £400k bill after losing court fight over will

A DAUGHTER who was sued after her "bad-tempered" younger sister was left just £250 in their father's will is facing a £400,000 bill after losing in court.

Anju Patel, 58, had inherited almost all of dad Laxmikant Patel's £600,000 fortune but lost a legal battle to sister Bhavenetta Stewart-Brown.

Laxmikant, who died aged 85 in 2021, had handed his £600,000 house in Harrow, north-west London, to oldest daughter Anju in his last will,

BY **RICHARD GITTINS**

while leaving younger daughter Bhavenetta, 52, and son Piyush Patel, 62, with £250 each.

Anju had claimed her dad's decision could be explained by an alleged mistrust he developed towards them.

But the August 2021 will ended up under attack in London's High Court, with Bhavenetta claiming a "cloud of suspicion" hung over the way it was drawn up and executed, having been made when the father was terminally ill. Deputy Master Jason Raeburn ruled in favour of Bhavenetta, upholding a 2019 will splitting the £600,000 estate roughly three ways between the siblings, while declaring the circumstances of the 2021 will "highly suspicious".

Now he has made an order that means, as well as losing two-thirds of her inheritance, Anju is also responsible for paying her sister's court costs, leaving her facing a bill of about £400,000, as well as her own costs.

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The casket is carried from the church by Kenny and others after the service

Terry and family including children Daniel, left, Gabby, Louise and Jordan

'My dad football...

Manchester United hero Gordon McQueen

HEADING a football "likely" contributed to the brain injury which was a factor in the death of former Scotland star Gordon McQueen, a coroner has found.

McQueen, who was capped for his country 30 times between 1974 and 1981 and played for Manchester United and Leeds United, died in June 2023, aged 70.

The cause of death was pneumonia after he became frail and bedbound for months, an inquest in Northallerton, North Yorks, heard.

That frailty was due to a combination of vascular dementia and chronic traumatic encephalopathy, coroner Jon Heath said. And in his

We hope first words Terry heard were 'hello, Dad'

Gabby and Kenny Logan with daughter Lois Maya

Among the mourners were, from top, Eddie Gray, Ian Rush, Chris Kamara and Chris Coleman

IN life, he was ravaged by grief following the tragic loss of his TEENAGE son.

So in death, his loved ones, including daughter Gabby, hoped that the first words Terry Yorath heard were: "Hello, Dad."

Family, friends and a host of stars turned out for the funeral of the Wales football legend in Leeds yesterday, close to the Elland Road ground where his fearsome will to win made him a fan favourite. His son Jordan said his father had persevered through pain following the death of Daniel, who died at 15 from a genetic heart condition during a garden kickabout.

The choir sang You'll Never Walk Alone as the congregation, including Welsh stars Ian Rush, Kevin Ratcliffe and Chris Coleman, left the church.

In his eulogy, radio presenter Elis James had told how losing Daniel hit Terry particularly hard. "But wherever he went he left people feeling better, he had time for everyone," he said, adding the hope was after Yorath's final breath at age 75 this month: "What he heard was 'Hello, Dad...'"

The Cardiff-born star had been touched by tragedy seven years earlier as player-coach of Bradford in 1985 when a fire killed 56 people at the Valley Parade ground.

"Football was his lifeblood," son Jordan told mourners, recalling how after the blaze his dad, injured as he tried to rescue fans, attended all the victims' funerals.

Yorath, also father to Louise, captained Wales in 42 of his 59 international appearances, and was part of the Leeds side that won the First Division in 1973-74.

Player turned TV pundit Chris Kamara said: "Terry, what a marvellous career. What a man."

Leeds Utd legend Eddie Gray called him a "tough player but above all a very good man".

loved everything about ultimately it took him'

BY **TOM WILKINSON**

narrative conclusion yesterday he found that McQueen died from pneumonia as a consequence of mixed vascular dementia and CTE.

The coroner added: "It is likely repetitive head impacts sustained by heading the ball while playing football contributed to the CTE."

McQueen's daughter Hayley paid tribute to her father after the hearing, saying: "He absolutely loved everything about football. But, ultimately, it took him in the end.

"He went through a horrendous time towards the end of his life.

"I think my dad's main message would be to warn others against the dangers of heading and protect future generations."

The Sky Sports presenter added: "It should have been a turning point many, many years ago when we learnt the same thing with Jeff Astle and not much has happened between that time and now.

"Hopefully, my dad's legacy will not just be what he gave on the pitch. But what we can do is learn from this and make sure this real, horrible problem isn't a problem for future generations.

"They need help from the footballing authorities. There also needs to be changes too – potential legislation and just education." When giving evidence at his inquest earlier this month, Ms McQueen was asked if her dad had discussed if anything in his past was behind his dementia.

She replied: "He said, 'Heading a football for all those years probably hasn't helped'."

Ms McQueen said her father, a defender known for heading goals from set-pieces, was relatively injury-free in his career but suffered concussions, adding: "They would just head back out and play." She also recalled how, when she was young, he would come home from training at Manchester United and lie down in a darkened room with a headache.

Ms McQueen described how her father was always very healthy and active, even after he retired.

But the family started to notice changes in his personality after his 60th birthday, when he became withdrawn.

The inquest heard that McQueen's family donated his brain after his death to Professor Willie Stewart, a consultant neuropathologist at Glasgow's Queen Elizabeth University Hospital. He has conducted extensive research into brain injury in footballers and rugby players.

Prof Stewart told the inquest he found evidence of CTE – a brain disorder linked to repeated head impacts – and vascular dementia.

He agreed when asked if the CTE "more than minimally, negligibly or trivially" contributed to McQueen's death and that "heading the ball" contributed to the CTE. The professor added that the only evidence available was McQueen's "high exposure" to heading a football.

Daughter Hayley McQueen yesterday

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Child care good for over-50s

Grandparent duty helping our brains stay healthy

BY **JANE KIRBY**

BEING a grandparent is good for your brain and may stave off a decline in thinking skills and memory, research says.

A study found those who provided care for their grandchildren tended to show better cognitive functioning than those who did not.

Grannies in particular showed a slowing in cognitive decline, found the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing, published in the journal Psychology and Aging.

The study found that grandparents aged 50 plus who gave childcare scored higher on tests of both memory and verbal fluency compared with those who did not, regardless of the amount of care given.

Lead researcher Flavia Chereches, from Tilburg University in the Netherlands, said: "What stood out most was that being a care-giving grandparent seemed to matter more for cognitive functioning than how often grandparents provided care or what they did with grandchildren."

Gout therapy can aid heart

BY **STORM NEWTON**

A DRUG that treats gout could also lessen the risk of heart attack and stroke, a study suggests.

The form of arthritis is caused by the build-up of uric acid crystals in the joints and can lead to pain – usually in big toes or feet, ankles, hands, wrists, elbows and knees.

Affecting one in 40 people in the UK, it is also linked with a higher risk of cardiovascular disease. Drugs such as allopurinol reduce uric acid levels. And experts from the UK, Sweden and Italy found a group of 54,000 adults taking such medication over five years had a lower risk of heart problems.

AI and robots to catch lung cancer much earlier

Pilot to run alongside expanded screening

BY **HANNA GEISSLER**
Health Editor

PATIENTS with suspected lung cancer could be diagnosed or have the disease ruled out faster under a NHS pilot that combines artificial intelligence with robotic tech.

Officials hailed the project as "a glimpse of the future of cancer detection".

It comes alongside NHS plans to expand lung cancer screening, with all eligible people invited for their first check by 2030.

The pilot, led by Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, will use AI software to analyse lung scans and flag suspicious spots, known as nodules.

Doctors then use a robotic catheter – a thin tube inserted via the throat – to take biopsies from the nodule, which are then analysed to diagnose or rule out cancer.

The robotic system can reach spots as small as 6mm, which are often hidden deep in the lung.

Targeted

These nodules may go undetected at screening and can be harder for medics to reach to take biopsies, leaving patients to wait for repeat scans to see if they grow.

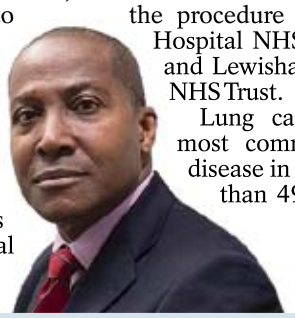
Health Secretary Wes Streeting – who had robotic surgery for kidney cancer – said the pilot would catch the disease earlier and replace "weeks of invasive testing with a single targeted procedure".

Specialists at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust have already tested the method on hundreds of patients.

Of the 300 robotic biopsy procedures already carried out, some 215 people went on to have cancer treatment.

The new pilot will involve 250 more patients.

David Lindsay, from Streatham, South London has already benefited from the AI and robotics link. The IT contractor was referred to Guy's Hospital for a suspected blood clot in his leg in September. But scans picked up a lung nodule and medics took a sample.



David Lindsay had an op after nodule find

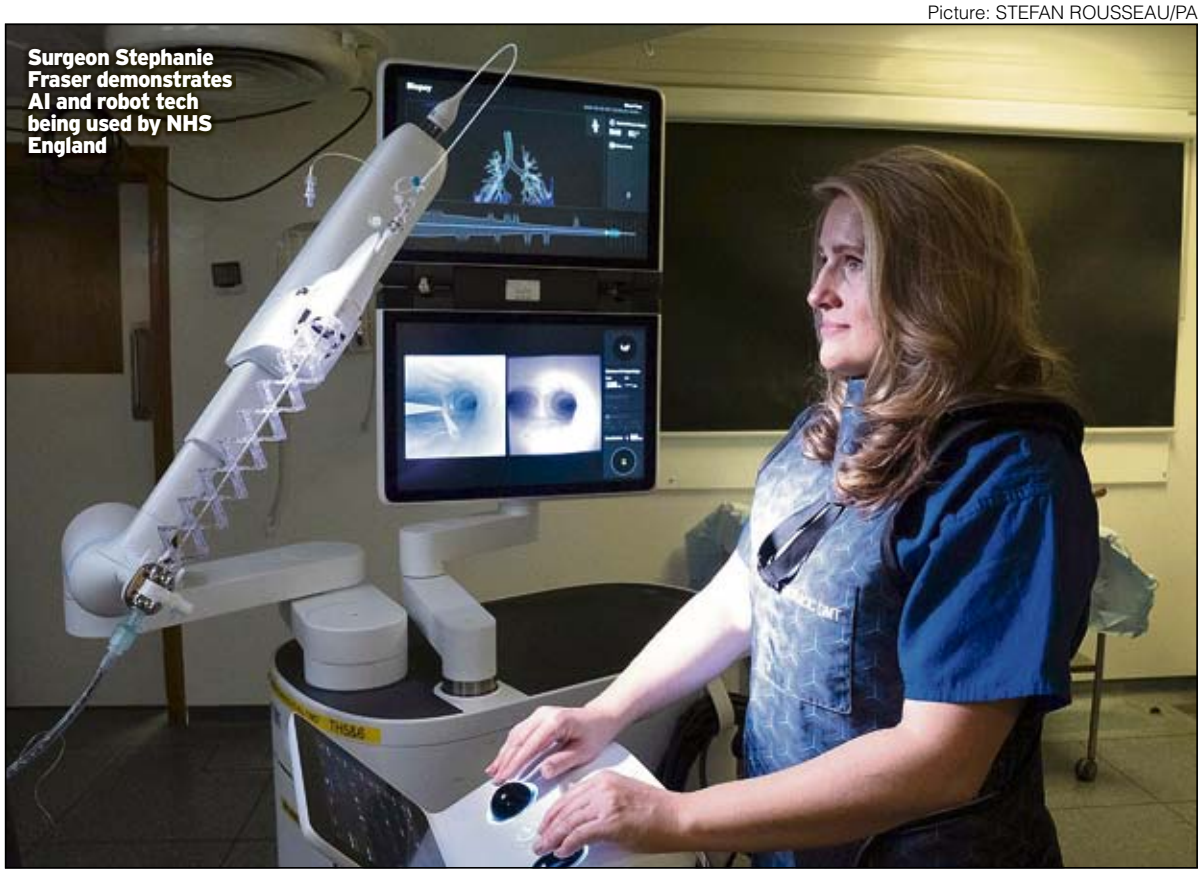
Mr Lindsay was diagnosed with stage one lung cancer and then had a successful operation to remove it.

He said: "It was quick and painless."

There are also plans to expand the procedure to King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust.

Lung cancer is the third most common form of the disease in the UK, with more than 49,000 new diagnoses and 33,000 deaths every year. Trials of targeted lung cancer screening started in 2019, with the programme rolled out nationally in 2023. It invites people who have ever smoked and are between the ages of 55 and 74 to have their lung health checked.

Picture: STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA



Surgeon Stephanie Fraser demonstrates AI and robot tech being used by NHS England

Trailblazing

Since 2019, more than 1.5 million people have been screened, NHS England said.

The expansion will invite a further 1.4 million people next year.

Officials estimate screening could diagnose up to 50,000 cancers by 2035, at least 23,000 of which will be found earlier. Professor Peter Johnson, NHS England's national clinical director for cancer, said: "Our lung cancer screening programme means we are picking up more cancers at an earlier stage than ever. By bringing AI and robotics together in this trailblazing pilot, we're bringing the very latest technology to give clinicians a clearer look inside lungs and support faster, more accurate biopsies.

"This is a glimpse of the future of cancer detection." Mr Streeting said: "When I was diagnosed with kidney cancer, the NHS saved my life using robotic technology.

"That experience showed me what's possible when brilliant clinicians have access to cutting-edge innovation – it saves lives."

Grey matter loss linked to menopause, says study

THE menopause is linked to a loss of grey matter in the brain, which may help explain why women are more likely to suffer dementia than men, research suggests.

Experts from the University of Cambridge carried out a study on 124,780 women to examine the effects of menopause on the brain and whether hormone replacement therapy plays a role in preventing cognitive decline.

Researchers found significant reductions in volume of grey matter in post-menopausal women. In particular, these differences occurred in the hippocampus (which has a major role in learning and memory), the entorhinal cortex (essential for forming memories and spatial navigation) and the anterior cingulate cortex (which helps with attention and regulating emotions).

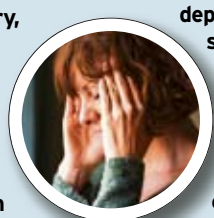
BY **HANNA GEISSLER**

Professor Barbara Sahakian, the study's senior author from the department of psychiatry, said: "The brain regions where we saw these differences are ones that tend to be affected by Alzheimer's disease. Menopause could make these women vulnerable further down the line.

"While not the whole story, it may help explain why we see almost twice as many cases of dementia in women than in men."

The study, published in the journal Psychological Medicine, also found women on HRT are more likely to suffer poor mental health.

But the analysis suggests they already had poorer mental health before being prescribed the medication.



Memory region can be harmed

Dr Christelle Langley, from the department of psychiatry, said: "Most women will go through menopause, and it can be a life-changing event, whether they take HRT or not.

"A healthy lifestyle – exercising, keeping active and eating a healthy diet, for example – is particularly important during this period to help mitigate some of its effects."

DX1ST

UK is sued ‘for £50m’ after Rwandan asylum pact axed

The Hope Hostel in Kigali

BY **ADAM TOMS**

RWANDA is suing the government for what may end up being more than £50million after Sir Keir Starmer quickly tore up the Tories’ asylum pact with the country, it has emerged.

The PM scrapped the deal, which would have seen asylum seekers sent from Britain to the East African nation, after he won the 2024 election.

Deported migrants would have been put up in facilities such as Hope Hostel in the Rwandan capital Kigali.

Some £290m was paid to Rwanda by Britain before the pact was axed.

The deal would have seen migrants housed there while their asylum claims were processed. Rwanda filed a “notice of arbitration” in November, with its justice minister Dr Emmanuel Ugirashebuja being listed as the “representative of the claimants” at the Netherlands-based Permanent Court of Arbitration disputes body.

The move was described as “catastrophic” by Tory Shadow Home Secretary Chris Philp. He said ditching the pact was “borderline treachery”, adding that taxpayers were “facing a huge bill for Labour’s incompetence”.

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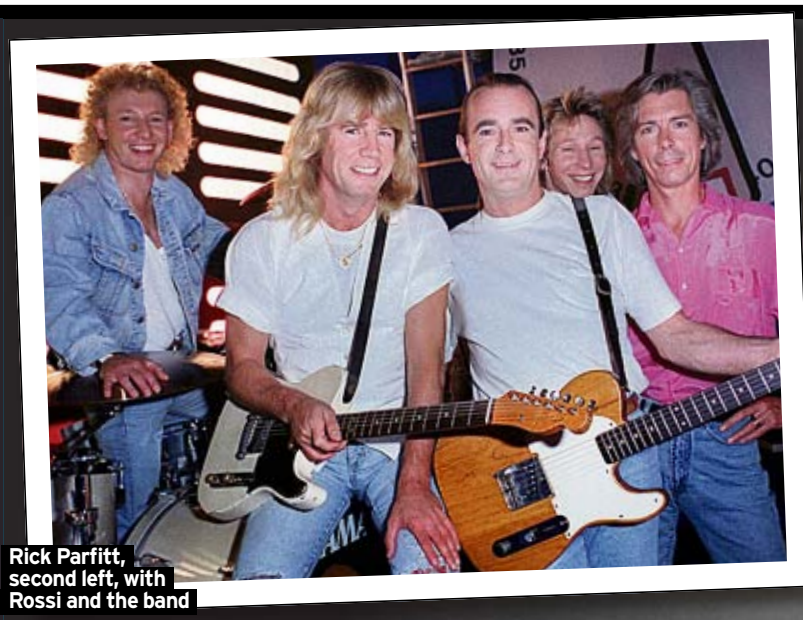

Rick Parfitt, second left, with Rossi and the band

BY **TOM BRYANT**

DURING his rock’n’roll years of excess, Francis Rossi, fuelled by prodigious amounts of booze and drugs, would hunker down in the recording studio until dawn.

He famously claimed to have spent nearly £2million on cocaine during the 80s. But his recording studio at the bottom of his Surrey garden is far more wholesome now. It is clear his old vices have been replaced by new addictions.

He’s keen to show me his recent labour of love: a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle, depicting the end of the war in 1945 outside Buckingham Palace.

He says: “I find them so therapeutic, I’ve done about four or five this year, but I’d normally have done about 15 by this time of year.” Then there is the daily crosswords and re-runs of Foyle’s War. “It’s a very different life but I am f***ing nearly 80.”

He has recorded his new solo album, The Accidental, in this studio. Rockers always like to boast it’s their best work yet, and Francis is no exception.

But after listening to it, he may be right. At 76, Francis would have been excused for taking it easy – not least as it’s increasingly difficult to make money these days. He says: “A quarter of a penny per download, you can f*** off. Even if they were giving us a pound, it’s still robbery. I’ve got a lot of expenses.

“I don’t have this massive £100million pot that people think I’ve got but I’m far from poor.”

But he says that for the first time in years he felt galvanised creatively, and that it beats all his Status Quo output. “People say because you’ve been in Quo all those years, you can’t be saying creativity and Status Quo in the same phrase. If this isn’t better, technically, musically, in every other way. What the f*** has it got to be to be better than them?”

I last saw Francis more than 18 months ago in his dressing room on tour with the band, bassist John Edwards, drummer Leon Cave and guitarist Richie Malone.

Then he said he doubted Quo would tour again after their final show in Taunton, Somerset, in August 2024. But I thought that he wasn’t shutting the door entirely. Talking to him now there is a suggestion, or at least a window, where they could go again.

“If I get a chance to tour, It’ll be 2028 and I’ll be 79. I’m sure, if I saw myself, I’d be: ‘Leave it out, your f***ing face is falling off. You got no hair, and you’re trying to jig about like you did when you were 40 or 50 and you can’t’.”

I ask if he felt emotional walking out at that Taunton show knowing it could be the last time? He says: “I don’t get that way. I don’t want to just sit there go: ‘Oh, do you remember 1975.’ I’m not finished. The band maybe, I don’t know, which is why I said I don’t know if it will tour again. I don’t think it will.”

Francis is always captivating company: sharp as a tack, self-deprecating and often very, very unfiltered. He admits this lack of restraint often gets him in trouble. Take his fraught relationship with guitarist Rick Parfitt who died aged 68 in December 2016, in Marbella, Spain.

I ask if he is aware of the upcoming 10th anniversary but he says he is trying not to think about it “because I disliked him a lot, and he disliked me.

“He’d tell me quite often, I even hate the back of your f***ing head sometimes. It is quite funny for someone to hate someone that much. But nonetheless, it hurt, because he was the closest thing to me, closer than to previous wives certainly.”

HE SAYS Quo fans often don’t like him talking about Rick in less than glowing terms. “They get annoyed because I don’t say good old Rick. But I’m not making stuff up. People come up to me and say: ‘Oh, don’t you miss him?’ It’s like being asked if you miss your ex wife’.”

But there are times when he does remember the moments they shared.

“I’ve got one picture of him in the house. We had some fabulous moments. I saw this video of us at a Swedish gig. We were falling about and laughing happy in each other’s company. It slowly but surely got eaten away.”

Born in 1949 in South East ondon, Francis’s family ran the Rossi’s Ice Cream business. He formed the Scorpions with bassist pal Alan Lancaster in 1962 at school. After some name changes and the arrival of drummer John

FRANCIS ROSSI ON LIFE AGED 76

Jigsaw puzzles, crosswords and re-runs of Foyle's War is the Status Quo these days

Coghlan, they were joined in 1967 by guitarist and singer Rick and called themselves The Status Quo.

After a big hit in 1968 with Francis' psychedelic song Pictures of Matchstick Men, they went on to sell 118 million records, with hits such as Caroline, Down Down and Whatever You Want, as well as playing over 6,000 live shows to 25 million people.

THEY opened Live Aid at Wembley in July 1985 with Rockin' All Over the World. This year Francis is on the road again with 30 dates but as a solo artist. The dad-of-eight credits his second wife Eileen for keeping him grounded.

"She didn't marry me for the bloke in Status Quo. She was American. She knew my cousin, that's how I got to know her. She doesn't go on tour. She's got her own life. She's a great woman."

She convinced him to give the album a go after seeing how much he was enjoying sessions in the recording studio.

"She said, 'why don't you do more?' It occurred to me that she never says that sort of thing. I always do my own thing. But she was right and here I am."

● *The Accidental is released on Friday. Francis Rossi's Songbook: Quo - Past, Present, Future tour 2026 runs September to November 2026.*

Francis Rossi now, and, left, in 1980. Below, his new album

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Pictures: JASON HINDLEY

Eric's bid to score a No1

BY **SAM ELLIOTT**

ERIC Cantona is as shy and modest as ever as he launches his music career – by comparing himself with Vincent Van Gogh.

The French maverick, who won four Premier League medals with Manchester United, said the Dutch master was an inspiration behind Perfect Imperfection, his first studio album.

Cantona, 59, who is determined to reach No1, said: "I learned the life of Van Gogh, all the people that we think are crazy. I love these kind of people.

"I always performed and always played. I play football, I play as an actor, as a singer. I'm a kid. I want to play in front of people, to feel this adrenaline – this is my job."

Cantona launches new album and, right, in 1995 match

Take That's secret new song revealed

BY **MARK JEFFERIES**

TAKE That have hidden a new song in their three-part Netflix documentary.

The track, titled You're A Superstar, features in the closing credits of the final episode.

Now a source close to the band has confirmed the tune is the first track from a new Take That album, out later in the year.

"The band thought it would be a great surprise and a treat for fans at the end of the Netflix series. It's a great way to tease their new material and the full single will be coming soon."

Gary Barlow, Howard Donald and Mark Owen had teased a new album was in the pipeline.

In May last year, songwriter Gary, 55, said: "We all came off tour at the end of [2024] and said, 'Right, let's get to work'.

"It's been slated for next year. We just don't want to stop, really."

The new tune is an upbeat pop track, with the lyrics: "My heart comes alive, all the stars turn bright, a million times in your arms, tonight. And I want to let you know, you're a superstar, and I'm yours."

Howard Donald, Mark Owen and Gary Barlow are all set for tour

Whilst the end song is upbeat, the documentary charts the highs and the lows, featuring some never-before-seen footage.

There are new interviews with Gary, Howard and Mark, 53, and archive interviews with former bandmates Jason Orange and Robbie Williams to tell the story.

Gary said: "Some of it was hard to watch – especially that middle hour, which covers the period after the band broke up."

They begin their Circus tour on May 29. But Howard, 57, confessed: "I've got sorer knees than in the 90s, but we try to do as much dancing as possible."

● *Take That is on Netflix. The Circus tickets at takethat.com.*

Briton 'urged man in US to kill himself'

BY **KATE DICKINSON**

A WEST Yorkshire man has been charged with allegedly encouraging a man in the US to kill himself on a video call.

Dylan Phelan, 21, from Morley, has been accused of intentionally carrying out an act capable of encouraging the suicide of another man, 21, in Louisiana on October 30, 2024.

He has also been charged with making an indecent image of a child and possession of extreme pornography.

Phelan is due to appear at Leeds magistrates court on February 11.

Malcolm McHaffie, head of the Crown Prosecution Service's special crime division, said: "Our prosecutors have worked to establish that there is sufficient evidence to bring the case to court and that it is in the public interest to pursue criminal proceedings.

"We have worked closely with police as they carried out their investigation into the circumstances of this death."

Man admits murder and knife terror

BY **KATIE DICKINSON**

A MAN murdered a woman he was attracted to before going on a knife-wielding rampage, a court heard.

Courtney Angus, 21, was found dead at Michael Doherty's house after being assaulted and strangled last July.

Prosecutors said Ms Angus was staying with Doherty for several days before the fatal attack.

On the day of the murder he threatened to kill himself when she did not reciprocate his romantic interest.

Leeds crown court was told the day after his brutal attack that Doherty, 38, of Batley, West Yorks, "went on a violent rampage across Dewsbury, stealing from shops and threatening staff with a knife".

Also known as Michael Moore, he yesterday pleaded guilty to murder, theft and three counts of threatening a person with a blade, including two police officers.

Judge Tom Bayliss KC warned him he faces life in prison when sentenced at a future date.

Reggie Kray's photo album up for auction

HOLIDAY snaps that Reggie Kray kept in his cell to recall his earlier life are going on sale in an archive about the East End gangster.

The photos show Reggie and twin Ronnie enjoying the sunshine at an Essex holiday park. There are shots of Reggie driving a convertible car and in dunes, while others catch Ronnie riding and at their caravan.

A group picture includes the killer pair having drinks at a meeting of the Steeple Bay Caravan Club. The snaps are reportedly from 1965.

Reggie's album, which includes a photo of his 1997 Maidstone prison wedding to Roberta Jones, is tipped to fetch up to £800 with auction house Henry Aldridge & Son of Devizes, Wilts, on Saturday. Other lots include rural scenes painted by Reggie in jail, his Bible and his DVD of 1990 biopic The Krays that starred Gary and Martin Kemp.

BY **CHARLIE BRADLEY**

The items were given by Reggie to a prison visitor at HMP Wayland in Norfolk in 1999 and they include a release form signed by him.

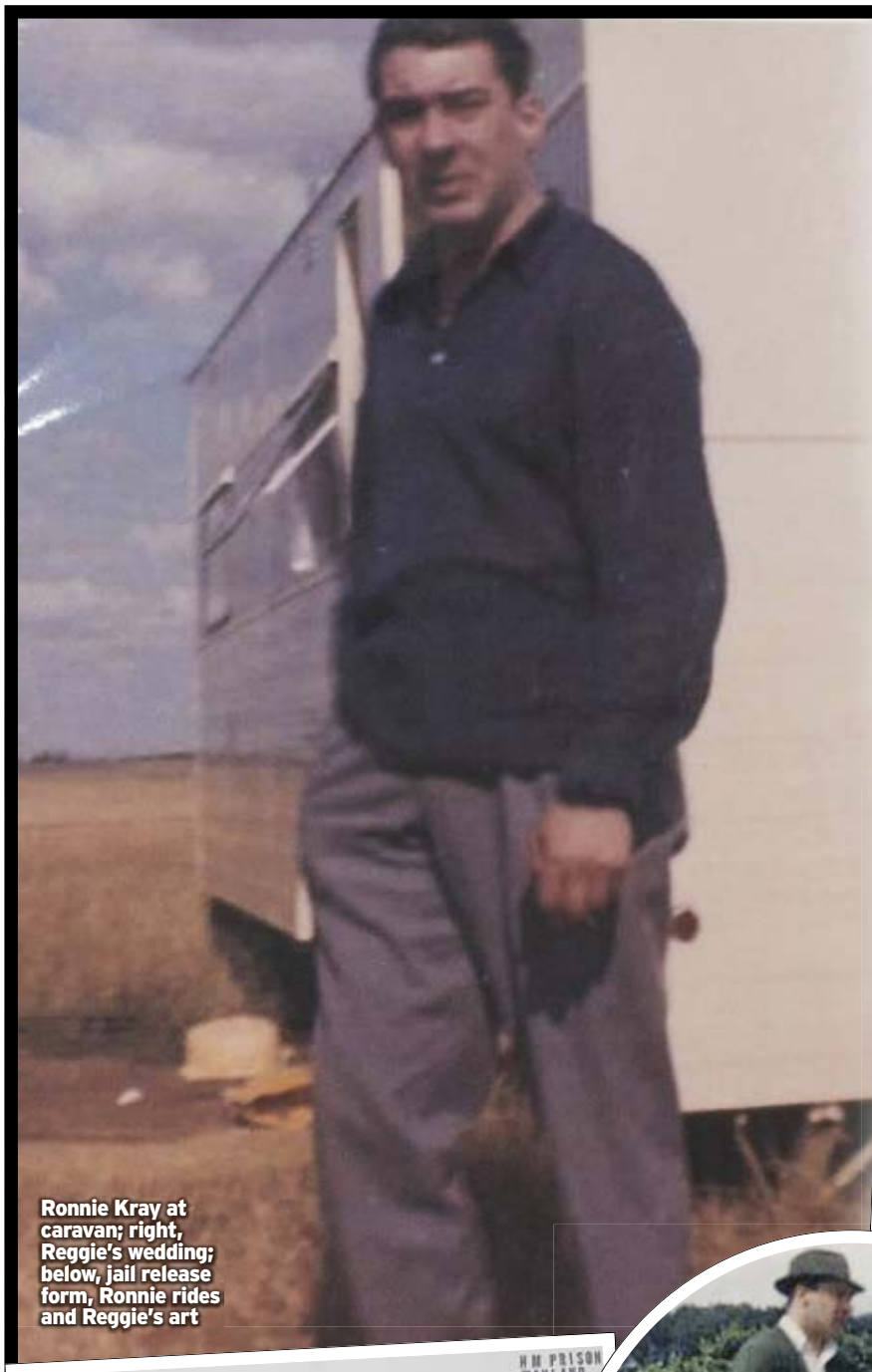
He died aged 66 at a Norwich hotel in October 2000, just 35 days after being freed on compassionate grounds due to his bladder cancer.

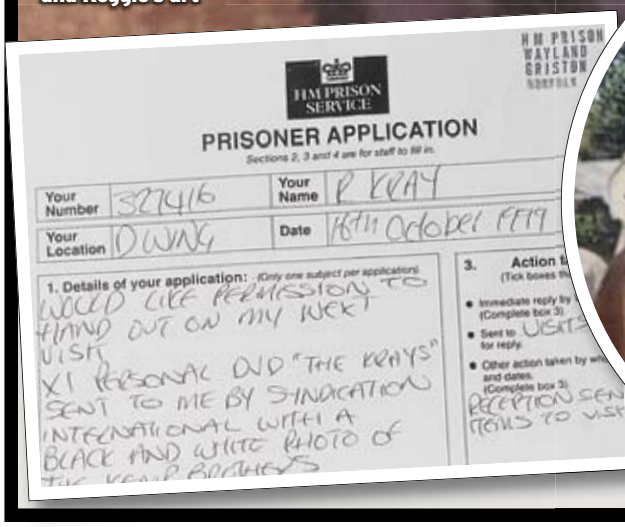
Auction house managing director Andrew Aldridge said: "These are some of the prized possessions of one of the most notorious gangsters of the 20th century that he kept in his prison cell. These are the original prints that Reggie Kray owned. This archive was given by him to someone who was visiting him in jail."

Mr Aldridge described Reggie's painting style as "naive" and said that the seven watercolours include his depiction of Dunstanburgh Castle in Northumberland.

The identical brothers, who ran London's most feared gang in the 1960s, were given life sentences in 1969 for murdering enforcer Jack "The Hat" McVitie two years earlier.

Ronnie, also given life for shooting rival George Cornell dead in 1966, was diagnosed as insane and moved to Broadmoor Hospital. He died aged 61 from a heart attack in 1995.





Rescued pair run off

Walkers fail to pay hotel that helped them

Wasdale Head Inn put up the walkers

TWO walkers rescued from England's highest peak left a hotel bill unpaid and took head torches belonging to mountain rescuers who had saved their lives.

The owner of a remote hotel by 3,209 feet high Scafell Pike in the Lake District told how the ungrateful pair, brought down after a seven-hour rescue in freezing temperatures, failed to pay their £130 bill.

The Wasdale Head Inn helped the men, aged 18 to 22 and "from the London area", after they were rescued by the Wasdale Mountain Rescue team. Despite promising to settle their bill for a room, they gave the inn false contact details and left without paying.

BY **JEREMY ARMSTRONG**

Owner Nigel Burton said: "I am disappointed rather than angry. Our manager Steve gave them hot drinks when they arrived, he paid for that."

Bar boss Steve Walker, 42, added: "Not once did they say thank you but kept asking for more free things like breakfast and a lift to the train station."

Well-wishers paid the £130 bill and have donated more than £5,000 to the mountain rescue team after news of the pair's behaviour spread.

A member of the rescue team with 40 years' experience said it was the first time anyone rescued had left without paying "in living memory".

Mr Burton added: "We stay open 365 days a year, from a commercial point of view it's pointless. But we feel we've got a duty to be there when somebody comes down the mountain.

"One bad incident like this isn't going to change our attitude."

OPERATION

Antiques Roadshow expert Mark Smith's passion for military medals began as a child when he heard his father's Second World War stories. Now to honour the late RAF special operative's unpublished wartime memoir, he has finished his poignant story

EXCLUSIVE

By **Karen Rockett**

SUNDAY evenings wouldn't be the same without Antiques Roadshow's Mark Smith, the medals and militaria expert who wears bright silk handkerchiefs tucked into his jacket breast pocket. Seeing beyond the military memorabilia to the hugely moving human stories at their heart has made Mark, a global expert on the Victoria Cross, a national treasure among the show's fans.

Mark's fascination with the men behind the medals all began with hearing the stories of his dad Les Smith's Second World War experiences. His veteran father shared tales of flying special operations for the RAF and the young Mark, an only child growing up in east London, couldn't get enough.

But Smith Snr was also haunted by the loss of his best friend, Harry, on a secret mission over the Indian Ocean. Now, from the pages of his late father's unpublished wartime memoir, to a pilgrimage to a Chennai cemetery to visit Harry's grave, Mark finally brings closure to his father's story in a new book called Medal Man: Dad, Me and the Second World War.

Mark Smith visits grave of Harry, left

"Medals are the time machines that take us back to these stories," explains the 63-year-old television presenter. "My dad had tried to get his story published only to be told no one is interested in the Second World War any more, but that clearly isn't true.

"He would be thrilled to bits it is finally being published and I only wish he was here to see it."

Les died in 2004 aged 81 of lung disease so he never got to see his son on the TV either. As well as vowing to publish his dad's wartime story, Mark promised he would go and visit Harry, buried in a Commonwealth War cemetery in Chennai.

In the book, Mark recalls his father telling him about the blood gathering in the bottom of the Catalina, the flying boat Les Smith flew.

"It was Harry's blood, he was 22," he wrote. "There were 10 of them. One died and two were wounded. There were a thousand bullet holes in the plane.

"Harry was my dad's best friend. He was still talking about him on his own death bed. He never got over it. He would relive Harry's final moments, as if trying to expunge them from his mind, and, poor chap, he never quite managed to do that.

"I made it my mission to visit Harry's grave. It was in the middle of a jungle teaming with snakes and spiders. His was the last one. I just said, 'Hello Harry' and burst into tears when I saw it."

There is a poignant picture in the book of Mark at Harry's grave. After the war, long after Les had returned to Walthamstow, his only son Mark was born in 1963.

"My parents were quite old and I had all these old aunts and uncles too," he recalls today. "Everyone in my family was old.

"I remember asking one of them once if they'd ever seen the Queen and they said they had seen Queen Victoria once!

"They all witnessed so much history. I couldn't wait to grow older.

"When I turned 60 my sister-in-law said I was the happiest 60-year-old she had ever seen. That was because I could finally say with authority that I remembered 50 years ago."

Mark's fascination with history began aged six when he started collecting British military medals with his dad.

"I would love the hunt, and finding one," he says. "Then we would write it up in our log book. I would go to the library and research the battle and the country.

"I may not have known who it belonged to but I could piece together where they had fought and what they had done."

Mark recalls as a boy asking his father if he had ever killed anyone during the war.

"I once asked Dad, 'Did you kill anybody in the war?' He replied, 'I don't know'. Then he added, 'I asked my dad that question and he said, "More than 500" as a machine-gunner.'

"That was one of my first lessons in the scale of the slaughter on the Western Front, and I sat in silence thinking about it."

The gathering of all this military history and the human cost behind it has, of course, stood Mark in good stead for his role on Antiques Roadshow.

Meanwhile, his ever-growing medal collection stands at 7,500 and sits in a bank vault worth an estimated £1.3million.

Like his grandfather Dick and father Les before him, it was inevitable Mark would serve his country in some way.

AFTER starting out as a civil servant in the Department of Health and Social Security, he switched to the Ministry of Defence and eventually worked for the intelligence services during the first Gulf War, The Troubles in Northern Ireland and the Kosovo War.

"I absolutely loved my job, and after a childhood of war games and then collecting militaria, I was in my element and very proud of the role I played," he says. "I loved the cloak-and-dagger aspect of it." Much of

Les Smith in full flying kit and a parachute

DAD

Les, left, with pals. Left, a Catalina flying

Mark with some medals filming BBC programme

Mark's work in intelligence can't be discussed and some of it was removed from the book.

On his return from Kosovo, Mark was run over by an illegal Kosovan immigrant. His head was split open and he suffered two broken cheekbones. He was airlifted to the Royal London and spent four months recovering from his injuries.

At the time, Mark was living with his girlfriend, now wife, art and antiques dealer Helen Dunstan. He decided not to return to the MoD and moved to The Royal Artillery Museum in Woolwich to become a curator. The job was heaven for a man obsessed with military history, and Mark remained there until shortly before its closure in 2016.

"I was like a kid at Christmas, surrounded by three million things I was interested in," he laughs at the memory.

He gave several TV and radio interviews during his tenure so when the BBC approached him to become an expert on the Antiques Roadshow, Mark was thrilled.

In fact you could say it was fate. When he was a child and would present his new medal finds to his parents, aunts and uncles, they would joke, "Markie boy, you should be on Antiques Roadshow!"

Recalling that, he says: "It used to make me laugh. Of course, who wouldn't want to be one of the experts talking to Britain every Sunday night about the stories behind the medals their dads and grandads won in wartime? But I never imagined it could ever happen to me."

More than 10 years on Mark is one of the most popular experts on the show and his excitement when presented with an interesting or unusual medal is palpable.

"My favourite time was up in Balmoral when this man brought in his granddad's 1914 Christmas tin," he recalls.

"These tins were given to servicemen by Princess Mary and contained cigarettes. After they smoked the cigarettes soldiers would use them to keep their medals in."

He starts to list the medals inside this particular tin, which included a rare gallantry card and a Carpathia medal.

"It was the Christmas tin that just kept on giving," he enthuses. "The Carpathia medal was awarded to the officers and crew of the RMS Carpathia for their 'gallant and heroic services' in rescuing survivors from the sinking of RMS Titanic in April 1912.

"This man who used to bunk off school to go fishing with his granddad had brought in this treasure trove of so many medals.

"I still get excited hearing the stories behind the medals people bring to the roadshow but this was the best. They would have been worth about £10,000 then and about £70,000 now but you'd never sell them."

Away from Antiques Roadshow, Mark is also a well-known battlefield tour guide.

"People often ask how I deal with the sadness of these places, going back so often – because they are sad places," he says.

"For me, there's a mix of emotions. Over the years, I have felt the anger that we all experience when we learn about the First World War, and the emotional side of coming to terms with what happened on the Western Front, but the feeling of being privileged to be there has never left me. In fact, it has only grown over the years."

LAST year Mark left his beloved Walthamstow where his family have lived for generations and moved to his wife's home county of Somerset where she runs an antiques business.

"I'm a country squire now," he jokes. "Helen's a like-minded soul and the perfect foil for me. We both understand what it is to be a collector. Medal collecting is a way of owning a piece of history. You could hold something in your hand that had been there on the battlefield."

And with that he is off to bid on a pair of Royal Air Force flying boots he spotted earlier in the day at an auction in Frome. No doubt he will soon be digging deep to find out which unsung hero once wore them.

● *Medal Man: Dad, Me and the Second World War by Mark Smith (Michael Joseph, £20) is published on Thursday; for tickets to Mark Smith: Antiques Expert on the Road, visit marksmithmedals.com*

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ABTA ABTA No. V4744 RIVIERA TRAVEL Which? Recommended Provider

£234 annual bill for kids' vitamin pills

BY **JOSIE CLARKE**

PARENTS spend an average of £234-a-year per child on vitamins and supplements, a survey suggests.

Some 92% have bought such products for their children over the past year with 89% choosing multivitamins and 65% opting for vitamin C.

Vitamin D (61%), probiotic yoghurts (56%) and iron (51%) also proved popular.

More than half of parents (51%) said they stocked up to boost their kids' immunity.

Other reasons were to avoid illness (36%) and boost focus and concentration (24%).

Meanwhile, nearly a fifth of 2,000 surveyed for payment platform Clearpay said they bought the products to help their children avoid being off school.

Clearpay chief executive Rich Bayer said: "Vitamins and supplements have become routine in how parents support their children's health, and this is now a regular expenditure."

Warning for beauty spot after rescue

BY **BEN MITCHELL**

FIREFIGHTERS have warned visitors to a popular beauty spot to take care after three people had to be rescued during challenging weather conditions.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service was called to Butser Hill, in the South Downs National Park, on Saturday after the group became disorientated as daylight faded.

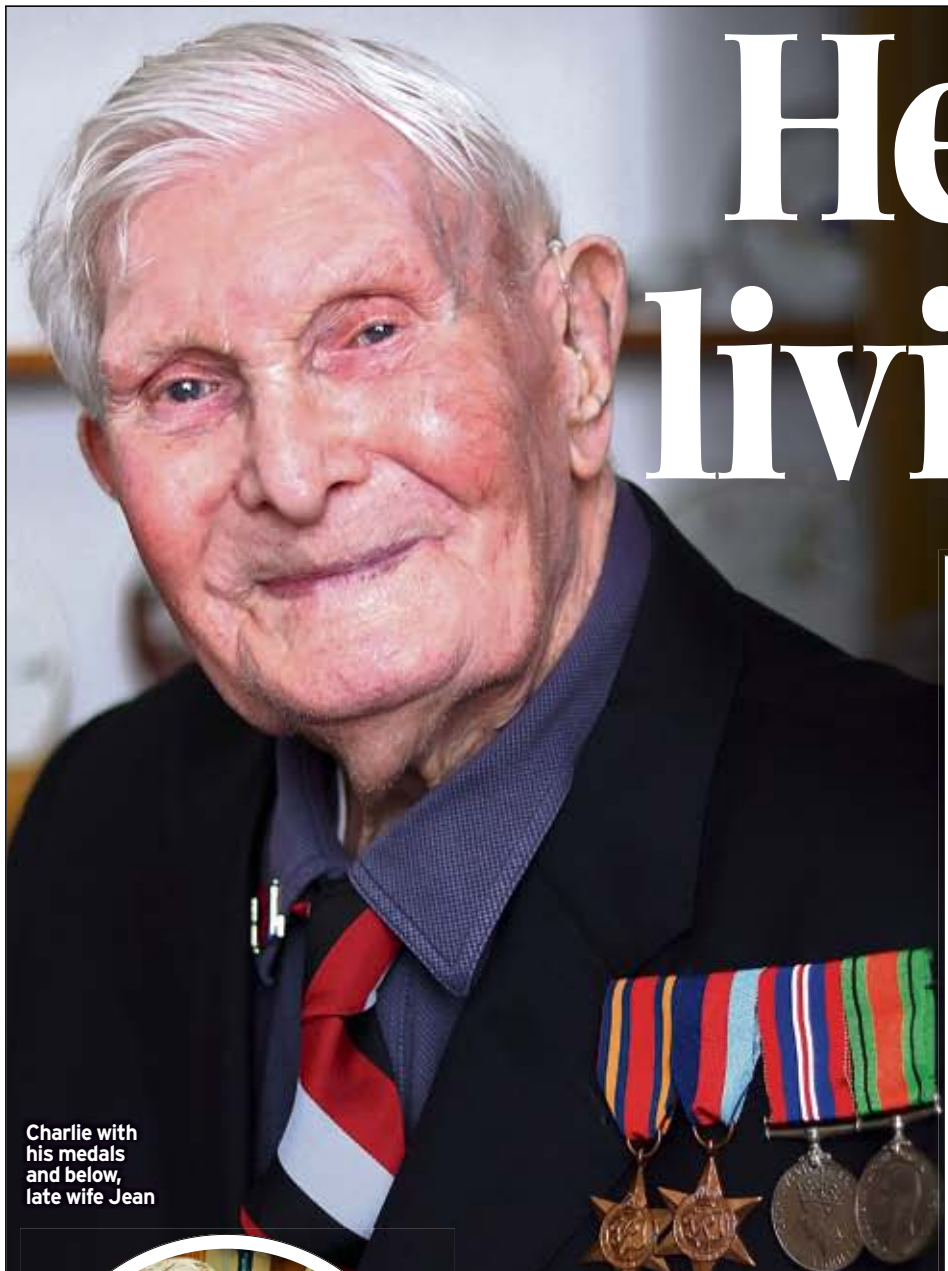
The warning comes as the hill, known for its Highland cattle population, has recently gained popularity on social media.

A spokesman for the service said: "We're seeing a growing number of visitors heading to Butser Hill in Hampshire, after the area's Highland cows went viral on social media.

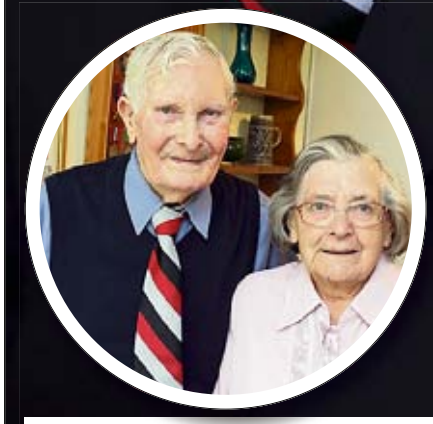
"Three people were rescued from the hill, highlighting the risks of visiting the area at this time of year.

"With temperatures dropping and rain setting in, the group quickly found themselves in difficulty."

Hero in a living hell



Charlie with his medals and below, late wife Jean



In Chindits after call-up aged just 19

Chindits veteran Charlie dies at 104

BY **LUCY THORNTON**

ONE of Britain's last remaining hero Chindits has died aged 104.

Charlie Richards told last year how he survived a living hell during the Second World War as part of the special forces unit fighting deep behind enemy lines in Burma in 1943-45, as the nation celebrated VE Day back home.

His elite unit, which later became known as the "Forgotten Army", survived hundreds of miles inside enemy territory in steamy jungles of the Far East, now Myanmar.

Charlie and the other remaining Chindit, Sid Machin, 101, met the King and Queen during the VJ Day 80th anniversary celebrations last year. Ahead of the ceremony, he told of his fears the world was in trouble – urging US President Donald Trump and Russian tyrant Vladimir Putin to "bash their heads together and see sense".

Charlie was just 19 when he got his call-up papers on the same day as Horace "Son" Johnson, another lad from his hometown of Kettering, Northants. The pair became best pals and served in the 7th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment.

When Charlie was 22, they were picked for the 10,000-strong special operations Chindit unit, made up of British and Indian soldiers, and told it would be one great adventure.

The troops – including Major James Lumley, father of actress Joanna – were named after the Burmese mythical lion-headed dragon, which guards temples. But instead of adventure they found themselves surrounded by danger deep in enemy territory.

Charlie later said in his memoirs, which he wrote with the help of his late wife, Jean: "Death was becoming an everyday occurrence, with bodies to bury almost every evening. After a few weeks of this it made you wonder if it would be your shoulder that death would be tapping on next."

Tragically, Son was killed during their six-month secret mission, shot just yards away from Charlie in a Japanese ambush as his Bren gun misfired. By the time Japanese Emperor Hirohito officially surrendered on August 15, 1945, the war in Europe had been over for more than three months.

Warmth

British troops fighting in Burma became known as the "Forgotten Army". Out of the 400 men in his column, only 140 made it home.

The Royal British Legion said: "We are saddened to hear of the passing of veteran Charlie Richards at the age of 104. He spent months behind enemy lines ambushing supplies and communications and battling through treacherous terrain, as well as sadly losing his best friend.

"Charlie became a great friend of the RBL, and his warmth and bright personality will be very much missed."

Reunited with his friend Sid, left, and chatting to King Charles at the 80th anniversary of VJ Day celebrations

30-SECOND CHALLENGE

JUST follow the instructions from left to right, starting with the number given to reach an answer at the end of the row. Set your own 30-second challenge. For the very young or arithmetically rusty, you have 30 seconds for the BEGINNER task.

For a greater challenge, try BEGINNER and INTERMEDIATE in 30 seconds. True mental gymnasts should try INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED in 30 seconds together.

Today's answers can be found in the puzzles pullout

Beginner	49	TAKE THE SQUARE ROOT	+65	÷12	+26	7/8 OF THIS	-16	x7	-28	YOUR ANSWERS
Intermediate	52	+184	3/4 OF THIS	-94	x4	-76	INCREASE BY 25%	+16	÷6	
Advanced	8	CUBE IT	-184	3/8 OF THIS	+353	÷7	+196	INCREASE BY 75%	-296	

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

MONDAY, JANUARY 26
SET FOR LIFE 1 16 19 26 34 7

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
LOTTERY 1 4 8 23 34 57 29
THUNDERBALL 3 15 22 29 39 5

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23
EUROMILLIONS
4 5 13 21 42 3 10
THUNDERBALL
7 15 18 26 32 3

THE HEALTH LOTTERY

MONDAY, JANUARY 26
12 17 22 35 41 20

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
6 23 25 47 49 35

The Health Lottery has raised more than £135m for health-related causes since 2011. Details at thehealthlotteryfoundation.org.uk

PHONE POLL RESULTS

We asked in our poll on Saturday:
Should President Trump apologise to veterans of the Afghan war for his insult?

YES: 98%
NO: 2%

DO YOU HAVE A STORY OR A PHOTO?

If you have a story:
020 8612 7077
or email:
expressnews@reachplc.com

If you have a photo:
020 8612 7171
or email:
expresspix@express.co.uk

For general inquiries:
020 8612 7000
WWW.EXPRESS.CO.UK
FOR GREAT READER OFFERS

SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares so that each row, each column, and each 3x3 square contain all the digits from 1 to 9

		5	8	7		1		
	1			6		7		8
	7				4		9	5
6		7		5		2		
1			7		6			9
		8			1	4		6
	8		5				4	
3		4		8		9		7
		2		1	7	8		

This is the Quick Sudoku for the solver in a hurry.
For today's solution call:
09071 812 571
(Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge)
For extra clues call:
09013 225 602
(Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge)

MORE PUZZLES – PULLOUT
YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

9	8	2	3	4	7	5	1	6
5	1	3	6	8	9	2	7	4
4	7	6	1	5	2	9	8	3
8	3	7	2	1	6	4	5	9
1	5	4	9	3	8	6	2	7
2	6	9	5	7	4	1	3	8
3	2	8	4	9	1	7	6	5
6	9	5	7	2	3	8	4	1
7	4	1	8	6	5	3	9	2

Winter Sale
Reader Offer in partnership with Yimbly.com

EXTRA LOUD WIRELESS DOORBELL AND PAGER

Now £49.97 was £69.99
Save 28%
Scan to order online

Stay connected to your home and loved ones with the Lifemax Doorbell and Pager system. Designed for easy use, it features a loud chime, flashing light and vibrating pager to ensure you never miss a visitor or delivery. With a 250m wireless range and no Wi-Fi required, you can carry the pager around the house or garden and still receive notifications. Choose from 58 chimes, 5 volume settings and a modular design to add extra components, such as an SOS button, for a larger setup. Water-resistant and battery powered, the system is simple to install and easy to live with throughout your home.

- ✓ 250 metre range
- ✓ No Wi-Fi needed
- ✓ Requires 2 x AAA batteries
- ✓ Includes a chime, pager and bell push
- ✓ 52 alert tones and 5 volume levels

yimbly.com/Offer73 Quote Offer73 Offer ends 1st February

UK Customer Service 0161 444 9879 | Now Open 7 Days a Week

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Trustpilot

Lone alpaca Giovanni sees double in mirror at his Cornwall field

Smoke and mirrors trick to cheer up friendless alpaca

By **LAUREN BEAVIS**

THIS lonely male alpaca is looking at a brighter future – after mirrors were placed around his pen.

Giovanni's elderly companion alpacas Eddie and Guiseppe died, leaving the herd animal living alone at Screech Owl Sanctuary & Animal Park near St Columb Major in Cornwall.

While park owners Kevin and Karen Hopkins went on the lookout for fresh company for the 18-year-old, they installed mirrors in the field enclosure so that "he perceives he is not alone, as a short-term solution".

Karen said: "An appeal for mirrors was made, and the local community rallied round."

Giovanni, a domesticated South American member of the camel family, now has "plenty" of mirrors – and, in a double delight, some new pals are on their way.

Karen added: "We are also pleased to say that we have been offered two young female alpacas by a local lady. It will therefore not be long before Giovanni will have some new friends."

The Crusader Fighting for your rights

By MAISHA FROST

A passion for fashion finally pays off

LOOKING GOOD AGAIN: A Vinted seller has her £189 payment after clothes sale

VINTED and now minted too – a seller of second-hand clothes and accessories who uses the popular platform is better off than she could ever have hoped a few weeks ago.

One of the millions running what's known as a side hustle and enjoying the catharsis of decluttering, Denise Potter is part of the UK's burgeoning pre-loved market. Worth some £4.3billion, it's got the wind in its sails as we accumulate more things, seek more space and prefer finding good homes for our surplus stuff rather than dumping it in landfill.

With technology making the process easier Denise had become a big fan of online marketplace Vinted, whose headquarters is in Lithuania.

"It's easy to use, there's new opportunities with more categories and both sellers and buyers are protected," she told Crusader.

"What I do isn't a treasure trove, but even with small sales – from £3 to £10 and a few every month – it does OK for me."

But late last year the £189 payment she was expecting for a pack of clothes didn't come through.

While she had completed the sale in good faith, supplying further information when requested had made no difference.

"A letter from my bank, a copy of my bank statement showing no payment had been made, I sent at least 20 emails to them, all several times and have met every obligation. Now I'm exhausted and have no clear date when I'll be paid," she explained.

Given Denise's problems we didn't expect a quick answer when we raised her problems with Vinted, but how wrong we were. Just a couple of hours later a spokesperson replied: "I am pleased to confirm the issue is resolved and the member has been fully compensated.

"The delay was caused by a technical issue with our payment provider tracing the original funds. However, given the clear evidence that the member had not received her pay out, we have stepped in to compensate her directly to ensure she is not kept waiting any longer."

Denise was undoubtedly down a digital rabbit hole – arguably the worst for consumers to navigate – and her struggle could have lasted much longer so this latest action by Vinted has certainly saved her further time, which for some can be as precious as money.

"I am so relieved and thank all of you who made it happen," she told Crusader, and also shared this piece of advice for other sellers: "I used to like knowing I had a reserve of funds in my account, but this has made me think differently. I will continue to use Vinted but I won't let the money build up in future."

● *Names have been changed*

If you want help with a problem or wish to applaud good service, we will do our best to help. We can't always promise a reply but please contact The Crusader, Daily Express, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AP. Email: crusader@express.co.uk. Only send document copies, not originals. ALWAYS INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER, thank you.

Winter Sale

Reader Offer in partnership with Yimbly.com

HEAT YOUR ROOM IN MINUTES

Create a warm and inviting space with this 9-fin electric oil heater. Its u-type fins provide fast, even heat, generating a strong convection channel that warms your room efficiently. With three power settings and an adjustable temperature range from 5-35°C, it's easy to tailor the heat to your comfort. Control is effortless using the mechanical knob, making adjustments simple and intuitive. Whisper-quiet operation makes it ideal for bedrooms and offices, and safety features - including overheat and tip-over protection, rounded corners, and a reinforced back panel - reduce the risk of accidents. Freestanding with caster wheels and a convenient handle, it's easy to move while cable storage keeps your space tidy.

- 3 Power settings (800W, 1200W, and 2000W)
- Size: H56 x W22 x D32cm

yimbly.com/Offer72 Quote Offer72 Offer ends 5th February

UK Customer Service 0161 444 9879 | Now Open 7 Days a Week

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Trustpilot

A powerful, frank, and moving memoir from

Helen Flanagan

AMAZON

On sale from all good bookshops and Amazon

Winter Sale

Reader Offer in partnership with Yimbly.com

HANDHELD LIGHTWEIGHT POWER SCRUBBER

Scan to order online

Make cleaning effortless with the Ruby Horsepower Deluxe, a handheld portable power scrubber designed to do the hard work for you. Its 350 RPM scrubbing action removes grease, grime and baked-on dirt quickly. Lightweight, cordless and rechargeable, it provides up to two hours of cleaning on a single charge. Five versatile brush heads – flat, stainless steel, smart flex cone, scrub sponge and microfibre cloth – make every surface sparkle. Ideal for indoor and outdoor use, it makes chores faster and easier.

- Rechargeable built-in lithium battery
- Two hour run time
- Waterproof up to 3ft

yimbly.com/Offer40 Quote Offer40 Offer ends 5th February

UK Customer Service 0161 444 9879 | Now Open 7 Days a Week

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Trustpilot

Harvey Rush finds himself locked in on 'one of those days it all goes wrong'

That's unlucky... locksmith traps himself in car

But partner comes to rescue

BY **KATIE PEARSON**

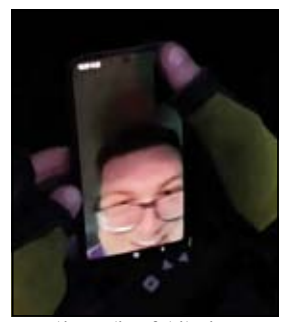
A LOCKSMITH had to call fellow experts for help, including his girlfriend, after he trapped himself in a car he was trying to fix.

Harvey Rush, 28, had been called out by a woman who was locked out of her Nissan Micra.

He was able to climb in using a foot stool after gaining access by opening one of the windows.

However, the stool fell over and Harvey was trapped as the doors were deadlocked. He found a spare key but the car battery was dead, so there was no way of activating the locks and opening the doors.

Also, with the window only half open, he feared shattering the glass if he tried to climb out without the stool supporting him, so he remained stuck inside.


Facetime clip of 'hilarious' SOS to a fellow locksmith

Harvey contacted fellow auto locksmith Hannah Middleton, who was in the middle of filming a clip for her YouTube channel when he popped up with his SOS on FaceTime.

Then he called his partner Yas, 28, with whom he runs Rush Auto Locksmiths of Blackpool. She arrived after 40 minutes to free him.

Harvey said: "It was one of those days where everything that could go wrong, did. I would usually pick the lock but it was too busted, so I needed another way in. I popped an airbag into the window and managed to wind it down enough.

"But as I flopped into the car through the gap in the window, I heard a thud. My stool tipped over and I knew I was stuck."

To make matters worse, Harvey took off his coat before climbing in to make sure he did not scratch the client's car.

Freezing temperatures last week made the 40-minute wait for his partner to arrive even harder. He added: "It was minus three, so not ideal. The client came out and we had a bit of a laugh about it.

"Passers-by saw me too and asked if I needed a locksmith.

"I said, 'I am the locksmith!'"

Eventually Yas arrived and after propping the stool back up, helped Harvey climb out the car. They cut a new key that was gently hammered into the lock to get the car door open.

Hannah, 38, from Northampton, posted her FaceTime clip of Harvey to a locksmith group chat and said: "[He] found it all hilarious. We had a good laugh about it."

SHOPPING & PETS

32 Shopping
34 Pets
37 TV Guide
42 Horoscopes
46 Your Letters
PLUS Puzzles

Coat £100
Hood £20
Jumper £36
Mittens £20
ALL MARKS & SPENCER

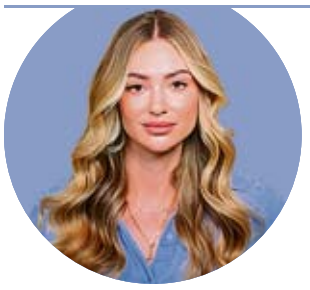
Teddy textures

From faux fur to plush borg, this season is all about keeping warm and snug in cosy fabrics

Coat £79.99
ZARA

Coat £89.99
Jumper £39.99
Trousers £35.99
Bag £29.99
ALL RESERVED

Jacket £64.99
H&M



SHOPPING YOUR NEXT BUY

Edited by **ZOE CRIPPS**

MOST WANTED

THE ORIGINAL MUCK BOOT COMPANY RAINSCAPE BOOTS

Let me introduce you to a new women's welly collection designed for winter's famously unpredictable weather. Blending practical waterproof protection with a lighter, more streamlined feel, the range provides a fresh, fashion-led update. The collection, with prices from £84, muckbootcompany.co.uk, features three silhouettes: tall, mid, and Chelsea, in soft pastel shades, each offering all-day comfort and a sleek, feminine profile.

TRIED & TESTED REVIEW

JOIYA MOVE PILATES AND YOGA GRIP SOCKS, £18

Shopping lead Zoe says: "I've recently got really into Reformer Pilates, and I'm already seeing the benefits in my tone, shape and energy from doing a few classes each week. You don't need much gear to get going on your yoga or Pilates journey, but I have found these grippy socks handy and fun. In a range of colours and prints, they stop me from sliding around my mat – and reel me in compliments in my classes!"

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EML CARBON LITE POWER WHEELCHAIR

EML AERO CARBON FOLDING SCOOTER

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Foreword by Mel B

CLAIRE THROSSELL with Michelle Rawlins

For My Boys

Foreword by Women's Aid patron, Mel B.

On sale from all good bookshops and Amazon

AMAZON

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK

Obsessed with Growth Journal £28 **TAM KAUR**

Chocolate Brown and Blue Striped Cardigan £65 **OLIVER BONAS**

Natural Stone Ring £18 **M&S**

Natural Knitted Fringed Throw, £19.99 **HINCH HOME X HOME BARGAINS**

Sandalwood & Spiced Apricot Cologne 100ml, £128 **JO MALONE**

Whale Print, framed, £49 **BEACH HOUSE ART**

Cold Pressed Sea Moss shot, £2 **M&S**

Silver Earrings with Turquoise and Heart £49.95 **ANNABEL JAMES**

Dipped Bown Candle Plate, £25.99 **IVYLINE**

Chunky Ankle Boots in Chelsea Brown, £18 **PRIMARK**

Behind the Scenes Eyeshadow Palette £16.95 **NO7 AT BOOTS**

Dark Brown Faux Fur Borg Jacket, £69.99 **NEW LOOK**

TREND REPORT

Skincare is shifting towards improving how skin cells function, not just how skin looks on the surface. More formulas are focusing on supporting the engines of skin cells, helping them produce energy, repair damage and cope better with everyday stress, which can lead to stronger, healthier skin over time. Ingredients to watch include CoQ10, niacinamide, antioxidants and peptides.

RISE AND SHINE

Nip+Fab Vitamin C Fix Antioxidant Morning Oil 20%, £29.95

Packed with vitamin C, niacinamide, peptides and antioxidant-rich plant extracts, it helps defend against environmental damage while evening skin tone and boosting radiance. Thanks to its water-to-oil balance, it also layers easily under moisturiser and SPF.

GLOW GIRL

Beauty of Joseon Glow Serum Propolis + Niacinamide, £15

With a silky, honey-like texture, it uses propolis to soothe, niacinamide to boost radiance and gently refine pores, and antioxidant ingredients like turmeric to protect against daily stress. The result over time is skin that looks clearer, more even and noticeably glowier.

TOP 5 STAY SNUG THIS WINTER WITH ONE OF THESE COSY SCARVES...

RIVER ISLAND DARK KNIT TIE ALPACA BLEND SCARF, *£59*
Made from a premium alpaca wool, this will feel soft, not itchy, against your skin.

ACCESSORIZE VALENTINE'S DAY RETRO RED BLANKET SCARF RED, *£22*
Get a head start on February's love theme with this red and pink buy.

VERY KNITTED RIBBED TRIANGLE SCARF WITH WOOL IN BEIGE, *£12*
Triangle scarves are a top trend for winter 2026, and this neutral-toned one will go with all of your jackets.

OLIVER BONAS RED & PINK STRIPED BLANKET SCARF, *£39.50*
Oversized and extremely warm, you'll reach for this on frosty mornings.

MATALAN ZEBRA SCARF, *£11*
Turn to a scarf in a playful print to liven up a block coloured jacket.

PAMPERED PETS

Our vet **DAVID GRANT** *works his magic*

Viral perils for tomcat

Q Our five-year-old rescue, neutered tomcat lives indoors. He is positive for the feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV), has regular checks and remains well. Is there anything new on this virus, such as how long positive cats can expect to live and whether there are any effective treatments or vaccines?

A As you have no doubt been advised by your vet, a previously incorrect myth is that FIV is a death sentence, with cats not living very long after diagnosis.

Cats that are positive for FIV do have an increased risk of developing certain cancers, and need regular check ups for early signs of illness, so that prompt treatment can be given.

There have been several recent studies showing that many FIV positive cats can live a normal lifespan without significant early onset disease.

'FIV not likely to shorten lifespan'

There is also a general consensus that there is not a great deal of lifespan difference between positive and negative cats, especially with very good care and regular veterinary check-ups.

So far there are no effective anti-viral treatments, although this is an area of active research. Human antivirus treatment has been trialled in one study.

However this trial did not reduce blood and saliva FIV titres, or produce any clinical benefit. There is a vaccine for FIV, which is currently available in Japan, Australia and New Zealand, but it has not been licensed in the EU or UK.

There is a recent study demonstrating that saliva testing is as accurate as blood testing, potentially useful in rescue centres, with needle-averse cats (the majority).

Q My two-year-old male terrier cross was recently successfully treated for generalised mange with tablets, having previously not responded to shampooing. Apparently, these tablets are used for flea and tick control too, but I have read about side effects, such as fits. I am not sure about continuing with them.

A Most probably your dog was treated with an isoxazoline drug, originally licensed for the treatment of fleas and ticks in the UK in 2014. They work by paralysing the nervous system of the parasite.

Shortly afterwards, reports began to appear that these products were highly effective against mange in dogs, particularly demodectic mange, the disease that your dog was suffering from.

A great deal of interest resulted, as demodectic mange has always been considered a very difficult disease to cure. Trials indicated that a high percentage of dogs were cured and as a result products were licensed for this disease in the UK in 2019.

Licensing processes must show not only efficacy but also safety, especially side effects and their incidence. Virtually all medicinal drugs have side effects, and need to be balanced against the benefits.

Early trials reported an incidence of "very rare" nervous system problems, (they occurred in less than one in 10,000 dogs.) The incidence may be higher in dogs already being treated for nervous system disorders, such as epilepsy, and veterinary advice is recommended for these dogs

Your vet will advise on suitable products for flea and tick control for your dog, and whether to continue with your current treatment.

David Grant has been a vet for more than 50 years. Email questions to him at pamperedpets@reachplc.com. He cannot enter into individual correspondence.

HAND EMBELLISHED WITH FRANKI THE PUG DOG JUMPER, *£79, Laines London*

NAVY TARTAN DOG TEE, *£29, Peter Alexander*

ORANGE & BROWN REVERSIBLE DOG PUFFER JACKET, *£26-£30, Joules*

COSY COATS

The end of January is in sight but the winter chill is still firmly in place, so make sure your pets are still bundled up with these ultra cosy coats

Compiled by - **FAITH RICHARDSON**

RUFUS & ROSIE REFLECTIVE WINDBREAKER, *£18, Jollyes*

BLACK 4-LEG WATERPROOF DOG COAT, *£24-£28, Next*

DOG HOODIE BLANKET, *£10, OHS*

KHAKI DOG DRYING COAT *£28-£32, Joules*

PERSONALISED QUILTED DOG COAT, *£50, Cocopup*

NON-STOP DOGWEAR FJORD RAIN COAT, *£75, Go Outdoors*

NAVY BLUE PATCHWORK KNITTED DOG JUMPER, *£18-£26, Next*

Winter Sale

Reader Offer in partnership with **Yimbly.com**

NEXT-LEVEL SUPPORT, UPGRADED COMFORT

The Northfield Dual Motor Riser Recliner from Artemis Home is designed with you in mind. It combines ease, support, and a touch of luxury to help you relax in comfort and confidence. Whether you're easing into the afternoon with a cup of tea or getting the help you need to stand up more easily, the Northfield offers dependable support and comfort that fits seamlessly into your daily routine.

Thanks to its clever dual motor system, you can raise your legs and recline your back separately. This means you can find the exact position that suits you, whether it's feet up for a well-earned rest, or fully reclined for a cosy nap. Smooth, quiet operation makes every movement effortless.

ELEGANT SUPPORT THAT LASTS

The chair's sturdy wooden frame supports up to 130kg and is upholstered in supple bonded leather that feels soft to the touch and looks timeless in any home. Generous padding through the back, seat and armrests cushions the body gently, making it easy to sit comfortably for longer periods.

COMFORT YOU CAN FEEL

The Northfield doesn't just look after your posture; it also helps soothe tired muscles. Built-in massage points target your lower and upper back, while a warming lumbar heat function helps ease stiffness and encourages relaxation. It's especially comforting during cooler months or for those with everyday aches and pains.

NO-FUSS DELIVERY, FULLY ASSEMBLED

With two-man delivery and full in-room setup included, there's nothing to do but sit back and enjoy. Just plug in, press a button, and let the Northfield take care of the rest.

- ✓ Dual motor-operated rise and recline
- ✓ Warming lumbar heat function
- ✓ Massage points in the seat, lower and upper back
- ✓ Bonded leather upholstery
- ✓ Size: H96 x W86 x D93 cm

yimbly.com/Offer104 Quote **Offer104** Offer ends 31st January

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Quingo toura2
Advanced +
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AMC is a company incorporated and registered in England and Wales. Company number is 3449882, whose registered office is The Pinnacle,150 Midsummer Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 1NZ.
** Full details available upon request. Example given is Quingo Connect on contract hire payment plan at £25.19 a week over 104 weeks with an advance payment of £250

Winter Sale

Reader Offer in partnership with **Yimbly.com**

THE ONLY TOOL KIT YOU NEED

Imagine powering up your garden with nothing holding you back. The Yard Force 4v Vita Garden Hand Tool Kit delivers just that - effortless gardening without the hassle of cords. With a powerful 4v rechargeable battery, you get up to 45 minutes of cordless gardening time. That means you can trim, prune, and shape your plants wherever you need to, with no limits. No more tangled cables or searching for power outlets, just free movement and pure power.

The pruner and shears come with interchangeable blades, so you can tackle a variety of tasks, from trimming shrubs to cutting back fine branches. The lightweight, ergonomic design ensures comfort, making every gardening session feel effortless.

But the 4v battery doesn't stop at powering your tools. It also doubles as a portable power bank, keeping your phone charged while you work. Plus, when the sun starts to set, the battery transforms into a torch to light your way. Gardening doesn't have to stop at dusk. With the Yard Force Vita Kit, you're always powered up, day or night.

yimbly.com/Offer21 Quote **Offer21** Offer ends 5th February

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Trustpilot

TODAY'S TV ONES TO WATCH

by **MIKE WARD** *TV critic*

Pick of the day
INSIDE THE FACTORY
BBC1, 8PM

WHAT NOT TO EAT, C4, 8PM

AT THE risk of turning today's page into Handy Hints For A Happier Life (although, come to think of it, that wouldn't be a bad idea), I must just share this useful tip from Prof. Tim Spector, featured in the last part of this series. Tim's advice relates to bread and its starchy carb content, which can trigger an unhealthy reaction.

His suggestion, if you ultimately plan to toast it, is to keep it in the freezer – because bread that's toasted from frozen apparently gives you up to 40% less of a sugar spike. And sugar spikes, remember, are bad for you. Not as bad as metal ones, but bad enough.

DOGS BEHAVING (VERY) BADLY, 5, 8PM

AS THE owner of a beautiful new puppy myself, I've been finding trainer Graeme Hall's new puppy school feature particularly helpful. In this week's programme, Graeme is telling his class of new owners about vocal cues and commands, beginning with the obvious basic ones, which of course are "sit", "stay" and "would you mind doing that outside, please, and not on the carpet?" (although that last one seems to have been edited out, sadly).

You can also achieve results, it seems, with visual gestures alone, such as a movement of your arms, hands or, if you're lucky enough to have any left, fingers.

THE SPECIAL ONE
Paddy McGuinness

CEREAL WINNER BOXES CLEVER

WHAT'S the best-selling breakfast cereal in Spain? Any idea? Well, would you be surprised if I told you it was Especial Qué? You jolly well should be, because it isn't. Of course not. That was a terrible joke I had to get out of my system.

In my defence, it came into my head while watching tonight's Inside The Factory. This episode takes us to Wrexham – or it takes host Paddy McGuinness there. Personally I rarely leave the house, you can probably tell – to the place where they churn out boxes of Kellogg's stuff – 120 million a year, before you ask, in a factory apparently "the size of seven football pitches", although I'd have thought that depended on whose pitch it was.

Nottingham Forest's, for example, is nearly 15% bigger than Fulham's. Paddy should be more specific, shouldn't he? I dare you to write and tell him.

But anyway, can you guess which particular cereal's production he's following in this episode? Yep, spot-on.

So with this in mind, would you care for some Special K-related facts? Paddy has loads. "To make 350,000 boxes a day," he's discovered, "this factory has four, 100-ton, 30-metre high silos, just for the rice. And there's another three full of wheat."

That's because rice makes up 47% of a flake, and wheat 37%. And the other 16%? Sorry, no clues. But it begins with a B and ends with "ley" And it isn't Burnley. So now you may be thinking: "Well, I don't need to watch the show. I have all the facts I need."

But you'd be wrong. In a separate bit, co-host Cherry Healey is taught how to stack a dishwasher for the best results – the tenuous link being that cereal bowl residue soon turns to concrete. And you might be quite fascinated by what she learns. For instance, you should never pre-rinse things. It confuses your machine into thinking it won't need to work very hard. "The dishwasher wants to clean," the expert tells her. "Let it!"

Fair enough. Home appliances are very clever these days. My Hoover never seems to want to hoover, but no doubt that's another issue. Maybe you're supposed to plug it in.

BEST ADVICE
THE MARTIN LEWIS MONEY SHOW: LIVE ITV1, 7.15PM

It's that time of year when money is tight for many of us, so Martin Lewis is on hand to give us tips on how to slash the cost of car and home insurance.

BEST DRAMA
WATERLOO ROAD BBC1, 9PM

New deputy Darius holds the keys to the kingdom – but how far will he go to hold on to that power? With the arrival of excluded students and familiar faces, chaos ensues.

BEST MYSTERY
THE GOOD SHIP MURDER 5, 9PM

Lesley Joseph and Linda Robson play merry widows Tilly and Elsa, who have decided to deal with their grief by going on a cruise, but then Tilly is found murdered.

BEST ENTERTAINMENT
RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE UK VS THE WORLD BBC3, 9PM

The contest to land the grand prize begins, including Swedish Brazilian firecracker Fontana, Bangkok beauty Gawdland, UK comic Kate Butch and Mariah Balenciaga.

TODAY'S PREVIEWS ARE ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE

FILM RATINGS

★★★★★ BRILLIANT
★★★★ VERY GOOD
★★★ GOOD
★★ AVERAGE
★ BAD

(R) REPEAT

ALL PROGRAMMES ARE LISTED IN GREENWICH MEAN TIME (GMT).

BBC One

6.00am Breakfast News headlines.
9.30 Morning Live Magazine.
10.45 Rip Off Britain (R)
11.15 Homes Under the Hammer With properties in Merseyside, Country Durham and Dorset.
12.15pm Bargain Hunt (R)
1.00 BBC News at One; Weather
2.00 Lost and Found in the Lakes The freedivers and scuba team search for a camera filled with precious memories at the bottom of Grasmere. Sam tries to locate the owner of a medal.
2.30 Marcus Wareing Simply Provence Marcus explores lamb production. (R)
3.00 Escape to the Country
3.45 The Travelling Auctioneers Auctioneer James Broad examines a house full of interesting items. (R)
4.30 Antiques Road Trip Ishy Khan and Hettie Jago search Somerset for items.
5.15 Pointless Quiz, with guest co-host Lauren Laverne. (R)
6.00 BBC News at Six; Weather
6.30 Regional News; Weather

BBC Two

6.00am Lost and Found in the Lakes A lost wedding ring. (R)
6.30 The Travelling Auctioneers A cache of coins. (R)
7.15 Bargain Hunt (R)
8.00 Sign Zone: Weatherman Walking: The Welsh Coast With Derek Brockway. (R)
8.30 Sign Zone: Robson Green's Weekend Escapes (R)
9.00 BBC News Headlines.
12.15pm Politics Live
1.00 Impossible Quiz show. (R)
1.45 Brainbox Challenge (R)
2.15 The Boss Quiz show. (R)
3.00 The Vintage French Farmhouse In Occitanie. (R)
3.45 Who Do You Think You Are? USA With Courteney Cox. (R)
4.15 Earth's Greatest Spectacles In the Arctic. (R)
5.15 Flog It! In Manchester. (R)
6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games Quiz-based games.
6.30 Clive Myrie's African Adventure In Durban, Clive joins an anti-poaching team saving South Africa's endangered rhinos.

ITV1

6.00am Good Morning Britain A lively mix of news, current affairs and lifestyle features.
9.30 Lorraine Entertainment and the latest fashion news.
10.00 This Morning Topical daily magazine, featuring a mix of celebrity chat, showbusiness news, advice and discussion. Including Local Weather.
12.30pm Loose Women Celebrity interviews and topical debate.
1.30 ITV News; Weather
1.55 Regional News; Weather
2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson and his team are at the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds, where a mini Shakespeare collection doubles its cash deal offer.
3.00 Time Is Money Quiz show, hosted by Sara Davies.
3.59 Regional Weather
4.00 Deal or No Deal Gameshow, hosted by Stephen Mulhern.
5.00 The Chase Peter, Sarah, Rosie and Shane take part.
6.00 Regional News; Weather
6.30 ITV Evening News A round-up of the headlines; Weather

Channel 4

6.25am Cheers Triple bill. (R)
7.50 Everybody Loves Raymond Triple bill of the comedy. (R)
9.10 Frasier Four episodes. (R)
11.10 American Pickers (R)
12.05pm Channel 4 News Summary Headlines.
12.10 Car S.O.S A BMW Turbo. (R)
1.10 Find It, Fix It, Flog It (R)
2.10 Countdown Tom Read Wilson is in Dictionary Corner.
3.00 A Place in the Sun Laura Hamilton helps Fran and Noel from Shoreham-by-Sea to find a holiday home in Andalucia's stunning Pueblos Blancos. (R)
4.00 A New Life in the Sun There are problems for two publicans on the Costa del Sol, and a Bristol couple try to launch motorcycle tours.
5.00 Chateau DIY: Win the Dream Judges Max McMurdo and Stephanie Jarvis put the contestants' entertainment spaces to the test, with one pair's dream of a new life in France hanging in the balance.
6.00 A Place in the Sun A couple search in northern Tuscany.

5

6.00am Milkshake! Children's TV.
9.15 Jeremy Vine Discussion.
11.30 Storm & Alexis Debate.
12.45pm 5 News at Lunchtime
12.50 Matt Allwright Debate on the day's biggest stories.
2.00 Vanessa Discussion show, presented by Vanessa Feltz.
3.00 The Madame Blanc Mysteries Judith's surprise birthday celebration takes an unexpected turn when one of the guests is kidnapped. Sally Lindsay, Julie Graham and Lisa Maxwell star. (R)
4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun Scuba instructor Louise dives for her dream, entertainer Andy hopes his Benidorm career will take flight, and there is a catch up with cheese entrepreneurs.
5.00 5 News at 5 Headlines.
6.00 The Motorway High in the Pennines on the M62, a driver gets trapped in the snow in an dangerous location, with high-speed traffic in danger of smashing into the stranded car. (R); 5 News Update

5.15pm, POINTLESS: Lauren Laverne

9pm, QI XL: Sandi Toksvig

7.15pm, THE MARTIN LEWIS MONEY SHOW: LIVE: Martin

8pm, WHAT NOT TO EAT: Tim Spector

8pm, DOGS BEHAVING (VERY) BADLY: Graeme Hall

7

7.00 The One Show Alex Jones and Roman Kemp present.
7.30 EastEnders Vicki opens up to Zack about how much she's dreading Joel's trial, so he invites her round to his flat while he practises some new recipes for the Vic.

7.00 Rick Stein's Australia Rick leaves the verdant coast and turns inland, travelling 400 kilometres west to the farming hub of Moree. With just 72 people per 100 square kilometres, the plains sit above a vast underground reservoir.

7.15 The Martin Lewis Money Show: Live In his Big Briefing, Martin shows viewers how best to slash the costs of car and home insurance, whether through switching and ditching or haggling over the price. Plus, the News You Can Use.

7.00 Channel 4 News A round-up of all the latest headlines, in-depth interviews and analysis of political developments and current affairs. Plus, the day's leading sports stories and up-to-the-minute weather reports.

7.00 Supermarket Own-Brands: The Big Taste Test A look at how supermarkets are attempting to produce cakes and bakes that can compete with the big brands, such as Mr Kipling and Krispy Kreme. (R); 5 News Update

8

8.00 Inside the Factory Paddy visits the Kellogg's factory in Wrexham, where 120 million boxes of breakfast cereal are produced every year, to discover the secrets behind Special K. Meanwhile, Cherry Healey races against the rain.

8.00 A House Through Time: Two Cities at War David Olusoga traces the residents' stories from winter 1942 to the end of the war. In the ruins of Berlin, not all the residents survive. In London, a woman waits patiently for news. (R)

8.00 Emmerdale Rhona has a surprise visitor, while Kim and Joe are floored and April shatters Arthur's illusions.
8.30 Coronation Street Theo wrestles with his conscience ahead of Billy's funeral. Megan resolves to confront Sam.

8.00 What Not to Eat Tim Spector and Kandi Ejiofor put ultra-processed foods under the microscope once more to show the chemicals that can be found in diet drinks. Plus, why it's a good idea to freeze bread. Last in series.

8.00 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly Graeme meets labradoodle Hughie, who has a dirty obsession with poo, which is causing owner Trish a lot of embarrassment. The trainer also meets one of the most destructive dogs he's seen.

9

9.00 Waterloo Road Darius takes charge in Stella's absence, only for the return of a familiar face to stir old tensions. Cat tries to support Portia but ends up making things worse and Donte turns to his peers as he struggles with Forest.

9.00 QI XL Michael Odewale, Cally Beaton and Gyles Brandreth join host Sandi Toksvig and regular panellist Alan Davies for a bit of wordmongery.
9.45 Live at the Apollo Tom Davis warms up the audience before welcoming fellow comedians Kae Kurd and Louise Young to the stage of London's Hammersmith Apollo to share their light-hearted views on modern life.
10.30 Newsnight Analysis of the day's events, with Victoria Derbyshire; Weather

9.00 Killer in the House: The Murders of Lesley Howell and Trevor Buchanan Examining the case of one of the UK's most notorious double murders, when two married people having an affair decided to kill their spouses.

9.00 24 Hours in Police Custody: Burying Horror The inside story of the investigation into one of the country's worst serial paedophiles, who is currently serving a life sentence for his crimes.

9.00 The Good Ship Murder Two merry widows, Tilly and Elsa, are on a grief cruise to celebrate the lives of their departed loved ones. When Tilly is then found murdered, Jack and Kate investigate to uncover the killer's identity.

10

10.00 BBC News at Ten
10.30 Regional News; Weather
10.40 Waterloo Road It's the senior prom and Darius is closer than ever to landing the top job. But as Nisha begins to see him in a new light, she grows uneasy about what he might have done to get there. Last in series.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather
10.30 Regional News; Weather
10.45 Long Lost Family The cases of Scott, who discovered his mum and dad were actually his grandparents, and Jackie, who found out her mum had another daughter. (R)

10.05 *NEW* **999: What Happened Next** When a man fatally stabs a suspected thief outside his home, detectives must untangle whether it was self-defence or something darker. Plus, a woman finds her car engulfed in flames.

10.00 Street Cops: Catching the Yobs Police put a specialist team together to bring in a man who has been terrorising Northamptonshire locals with his dangerous dogs. A 999 call takes officers to an estate, and things quickly escalate. (R)

11

11.40 Things You Should Have Done Triple bill. Harsh words and a damning diagnosis from Ruth leave Chi determined to prove she is not thick; Chi's ghost parents tell her she should be worried about dying alone, which results in her desperately approaching almost everyone in Ramsgate; Chi sees Halloween as a chance to say goodbye to childhood. Last in series.

11.00 *FILM* **Defiance** (2008, 15) Three Jewish brothers escape into the forests during the Nazi invasion of Poland and form a resistance movement. Second World War drama, starring Daniel Craig, Liev Schreiber and Jamie Bell. ★★★

11.45 Sorry, I Didn't Know Chizzy Akudolu hosts the panel show about black history, with Angellica Bell, Daliso Chaponda, Suzi Ruffell and Humza Arshad joining team captains Eddie Kadi and Richard Blackwood. (R)

11.10 Manhunt Following specialist police as they deal with urgent manhunts. Greater Manchester Police's Serious and Organised Crime Group receives a chilling 999 call from a citizen reporting a man being forced into a car. (R)

11.05 Fare Dodgers: At War with the Law A revenue protection manager co-ordinates a major operation to clamp down on fare evasion at Clapham, and a law student pleads his case after getting caught without a valid ticket. (R)

12 MIDNIGHT

1.05am Weather for the Week Ahead **1.10-6.00am** BBC News

1.05am Sign Zone: What We Do in the Shadows. A dispute over who gets to use the newly available empty room under the stairs gets out of control. (R) **1.35** Sign Zone: Inside the Factory. A pharmaceutical factory. (R) **2.35** Sign Zone: Can You Keep a Secret? (R) **3.05-6.15am** This Is BBC Two

12.10am Shop on TV **3.00** Tour de Fred – Ireland: Part Deux. Fred Sirieix takes to the streets and roads of Cork City, testing his stamina with a cycle challenge up St Patrick's Hill, one of the city's most famous climbs. (R) **3.50** Unwind with ITV **5.05-6.00am** Deal or No Deal. Stephen Mulhern hosts. (R)

12.10am *FILM* Holocaust: Night Will Fall (2014, 15) ★★★★ **1.25** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R) **2.10** Couples Come Dine with Me (R) **3.00** Remarkable Places to Eat (R) **3.55** Jamie's £1 Wonders (R) **4.50** Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It (R) **5.45-6.25am** Countdown (R)

12.05am Call the Bailiffs: Time to Pay Up (R) **1.00** PlayOJO Live Casino **3.00** World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys (R) **3.45** Susan Calman's Grand Week by the Sea (R) **4.35** The Highland Vet (R) **5.25** Entertainment News on 5 **5.35** The Adventures of Paddington (R) **5.45-6.00am** Milo (R)

ITV2 FREEVIEW 6

6.00am CITV **7.30** Celebrity Dinner Date **8.30** Olivia Marries Her Match **9.20** The Only Way Is Essex **10.20** The Real Housewives of Miami **11.15** The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills **12.10pm** Dinner Date **1.15** Celebrity Dinner Date **2.15** The Only Way Is Essex **3.15** The Real Housewives of Orange County **4.10** The Real Housewives of Miami **5.00** The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills

6.00 Celebrity Catchphrase

7.00 Deal or No Deal Ush tries to open the 22 red boxes in the right order.

8.00 The Real Housewives of Orange County Jenn returns from the Bahamas.

9.00 Love Island: All Stars Reality series.

10.05 Grosse Pointe Garden Society Alice's grief clouds her judgement.

11.05 Family Guy Double bill.

12.05am American Dad!: double bill **1.05** Bob's Burgers **1.35** Olivia Attwood's Bad Boyfriends **2.35** Unwind with ITV **3.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

ITVQuiz FREEVIEW 28

9.00am Deal or No Deal **10.00** Tipping Point **1.00pm** Lingo **2.00** Tenable **3.00** Millionaire Hot Seat **4.00** Riddiculous **5.00** Deal or No Deal. New contestant Paisley steps up to play her game.

6.00 Lingo Triple bill. Scott and Dave, Jane and Daniel, and Natalie and Carla compete; Monica and Perry, Millie and Sian and Dale and Mary compete; colleagues Mikie and Katie, mates Nia and Sarah and James and his dad Nick use their skills to find words.

9.00 Wheel of Fortune Graham Norton invites civil servant Becca, programme insights lead Kurt, and police analyst Soraya to spin the wheel and avoid bankrupts to win a possible £50,000.

10.00 Tipping Point Double bill. Ben Shephard hosts the quiz show in which four players take on a machine in the hope of winning the £10,000 jackpot.

12.00m't Tipping Point **12.55** Tenable **1.50** Unwind **2.00-9.00am** Teleshopping

BBC3 FREEVIEW 23

7.00pm The Catch Up News.

7.05 SpongeBob SquarePants

7.30 The Weakest Link Featuring journalists Sarah Smith, Kay Burley, Keme Nzerem and Vanessa Feltz.

8.15 Alan Carr's Picture Slam Three pairs of contestants from Arbroath, Birmingham and Nottingham try to identify a board full of images, with a chance of winning up to £10,000.

9.00 NEW **RuPaul's Drag Race UK vs the World** Nine International members of RuPaul's Drag Race Royal alumni compete.

10.15 Things You Should Have Done Triple bill. Chi breaks into Ramsgate College in search of an education; Chi goes in search of a partner; Chi goes trick or treating. Last in series.

11.45 The Beauty Queen and the Catfish: triple bill **2.00am** Things You Should Have Done **3.30-3.55am** My Mate's a Bad Date

BBC4 FREEVIEW 9

7.00pm Great British Railway Journeys Exploring Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and Leeds.

7.30 Wainwright Walks Julia Bradbury explores the heart of the Lake District, starting in the Cumbrian village of Grasmere.

8.00 Yes, Prime Minister Double bill. Jim gets wind of a major financial scandal in the City; Jim wants to reform local government.

9.00 Henry VIII's Enforcer: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Cromwell A profile of the 16th-century lawyer and statesman.

10.00 Philip Larkin and the Third Woman A previously unknown work.

10.30 The Great American Buffalo

12.25am Great British Railway Journeys **12.55** Wainwright Walks **1.25** Henry VIII's Enforcer: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Cromwell **2.25-3.25am** Wild China

GB News FREEVIEW 236

6.00am Breakfast with Eamonn and Ellie **9.30** Britain's Newsroom **12.00noon** Good Afternoon Britain **3.00** Martin Daubney. Updates.

6.00 Dewbs & Co Plain-speaking, straight-talking – Michelle Dewberry delivers her take on the day's news.

7.00 Farage An action-packed hour of topical discussion and debate.

8.00 Jacob Rees-Mogg's State Of The Nation Join Jacob for his unique and unmissable take on the news.

9.00 Patrick Christys Tonight Replay Join Patrick for two hours of spirited debate and news making interviews. Top guests tackle the issues that matter, with a take on every story.

11.00 Patrick Christys Tonight Late Edition Discussing latest news.

12.00m't The Late Show Live **2.00** Farage Replay **3.00** Patrick Christys Tonight Replay **5.00-6.00am** Patrick Christys Tonight Late Edition

U&Dave FREEVIEW 19

6.00am Teleshopping **7.30** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **9.30** Speed with Guy Martin: Classic F1 Special **11.00** Rick Stein's Road to Mexico **12.00noon** Bangers & Cash **2.00** Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge **3.00** Top Gear **5.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British

6.00 Rick Stein's Road to Mexico The chef travels through LA into San Diego.

7.00 Would I Lie to You? With Jo Brand, Roisin Conaty, Paul Foot and Ray Mears.

7.40 Richard Osman's House of Games

9.00 Have I Got a Bit More News for You David Dimbleby hosts an extended edition of the satirical quiz from 2019, with Stacey Dooley and Henning Wehn.

10.00 QI XL With guest panellists Cal Wilson, Jack Whitehall and Jimmy Carr.

11.00 Taskmaster With Liza Tarbuck, Alice Levine and Asim Chaudhry.

12.00m't Mock the Week. Panel show. **12.40** Would I Lie to You? **2.00** Not Going Out **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

U&Drama FREEVIEW 20

6.00am Teleshopping **7.35** The Bill **8.30** Doctors **9.40** Classic Holby City **10.45** Classic Casualty **11.50** The Bill **12.50pm** Classic EastEnders **2.10** All Creatures Great and Small **3.10** Howards' Way **4.20** Bergerac **5.20** The Thin Blue Line

6.00 To the Manor Born Audrey pretends to be DeVere's wife. First shown in 1981.

6.40 Last of the Summer Wine Double bill.

8.00 Harry Wild A despotic soap opera director has his throat cut during a scene.

9.00 Whitstable Pearl A mother takes her daughter out for a boat ride – in spite of her husband's wishes – and the pair need rescuing after the vessel is sabotaged.

10.05 New Tricks The team reopens the investigation into a terrorist's death.

11.25 Waking the Dead Part one of two. An anonymous email leads the team to the body of a right-wing political activist.

12.40am Sister Boniface Mysteries **1.45** The Thin Blue Line **2.15** The Brokenwood Mysteries **4.00-6.00am** Teleshopping

E4 FREEVIEW 13

6.00am Hollyoaks **6.55** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **7.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **9.00** The Goldbergs **10.00** Modern Family **11.00** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **1.00pm** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.00** The Simpsons **3.00** The Goldbergs **4.00** Modern Family **5.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine

6.00 The Simpsons Double bill.

7.00 Hollyoaks New mum Cleo continues to struggle, as tensions rise with Sienna.

7.30 The Simpsons When Bart fails to hand in his homework, Homer and Marge receive a letter from the school.

8.00 First Dates Visitors include a woman who has never had a boyfriend.

9.00 Gogglebox Double bill.

11.05 Open House: The Great Sex Experiment Katey and Dan plan a night of fun with residents Josh and Holly.

12.05am Naked Attraction **1.10** First Dates **2.10** Gogglebox **3.55** The Goldbergs **4.45-6.00am** Don't Tell the Bride

More4 FREEVIEW 18

8.55am Strangers on a Plane **9.30** Find It, Fix It, Flog It **10.25** A Place in the Sun **11.30** Come Dine with Me: five episodes **2.10pm** Four in a Bed: five episodes **4.50** A Place in the Sun **5.55** Car S.O.S

6.55 Car S.O.S Double bill. Tim Shaw and Fuzz Townshend restore a VW Wizard; Tim Shaw and Fuzz Townshend restore an 80s Ford Escort XR3i to surprise a Leeds United fan on his 21st birthday.

9.00 Saving Country Houses with Penelope Keith The owners of Elizabethan Pitchford Hall in Shropshire are puzzled by dangerous sinkholes on the estate, possibly caused by an extraordinary subterranean bathhouse.

10.00 24 Hours in A&E Double bill. A patient is rushed in with a life-threatening abdominal aortic aneurysm; a patient has broken his leg playing American football.

12.10am Saving Country Houses with Penelope Keith **1.15** 24 Hours in A&E **3.25-3.55am** Food Unwrapped

Variations & S4C

WALES As BBC1 except: 1.35-1.45pm BBC Wales Today; Weather **6.30-7.00** BBC Wales Today; Weather **10.30-10.40pm** BBC Wales Today. The latest news headlines; Weather

WALES As BBC2 except: 1.45pm First Minister's Questions **2.45** Brainbox Challenge **3.15** The Boss **4.00** The Vintage French Farmhouse **4.45-5.15pm** Who Do You Think You Are? USA. With actress Courteney Cox.

MERIDIAN As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Meridian; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Meridian; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Meridian. The latest news headlines; Weather

CENTRAL As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Central; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Central; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Central. The latest news headlines; Weather

ITV WALES As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Cymru Wales; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Cymru Wales; Weather **10.30** ITV News Cymru Wales; Weather **10.45-11.45pm** Sharp End. The latest developments in Welsh politics.

WEST As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News West Country; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country. Headlines; Weather

ANGLIA As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News Anglia; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News Anglia; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News Anglia. The latest news headlines; Weather

WESTCOUNTRY As ITV1 except: 1.55-2.00pm ITV News West Country; Weather **6.00-6.30** ITV News West Country; Weather **10.30-10.45pm** ITV News West Country. The latest news headlines and stories; Weather

S4C 6.00am Cyw **12.00noon** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **12.05pm** Gwladfa: Gwilym Bowen Rhys **12.30** Heno **1.00** Welsh Whisperer – Ni'n Teithio Nawr! **1.30** Ffermio **2.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **2.05** Prynhawn Da **3.00** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **3.05** 6 Gwlad Shane ac Ieuan **4.00** Awr Fawr **5.00** Stwnsh **6.00** Cysgu O Gwmpas **6.25** Darllediad Gwleidyddol **6.30** Sgorio **6.57** Newyddion S4C **7.00** Heno **7.30** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **8.00** Pobol y Cwm. Anita has an accident. **8.25** Rownd a Rownd **8.55** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd **9.00** Foden: O Brifathro I Bedoffeil **10.00** Taith Bywyd **11.00-11.35pm** Y Fets

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Sport

SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

6.00am Sky Sports News **7.00** Sky Sports Breakfast. The latest headlines and reports. **7.30** LIVE **ICC Under-19s World Cup Cricket** A Super Six match from Harare Sports Club. **3.00pm** Sports Desk. The latest headlines. **3.30** LIVE **International T20 Cricket** South Africa v West Indies. Coverage of the first T20 in the three-match series from Boland Park, Paarl. **7.30** LIVE **EFL** Doncaster Rovers v Leyton Orient (kick-off 8.00pm). From Eco-Power Stadium. **10.30** Back Pages Tonight **11.00** Sky Sports News **12.00m't** LIVE **NBA Basketball** Philadelphia 76ers v Milwaukee Bucks (Tip-off 1.00am). The Eastern Conference match at Xfinity Mobile Arena. **3.30** LIVE **NBA Basketball** Utah Jazz v Los Angeles Clippers (Tip-off 3.00am). At Delta Center. **5.30-6.00am** Sky Sports News. Headlines.

SKY SPORTS CRICKET

6.00am SA20 **7.00** Best of ICC WT20 **7.15** LIVE **ICC Under-19s World Cup Cricket** A Super Six match from Harare Sports Club. **3.00pm** Best of England v South Africa. Action from 2011. **3.15** Best of ICC WT20 **3.30** LIVE **International T20 Cricket** South Africa v West Indies. Coverage of the first T20 match. **8.00** Best of ICC WT20 **8.15** Best of ICC WT20 **8.30** Best of England v South Africa **8.45** Best of ICC WT20 **9.00** SA20 **10.00** WPL **11.00** WPL **12.00m't** International T20 Cricket **3.30** Best of England v South Africa **3.45** Best of ICC WT20 **4.00-6.00am** WPL

SKY SPORTS FOOTBALL

6.00am Championship Retro **8.00** Henrik Larsson: 20 Years On **9.00** EFL Greatest Games **10.00** EFL Cup Highlights **11.00** SPFL: Old Firm Derby Best Goals **11.30** SPFL: Edinburgh Derby Best Goals **12.00noon** SPFL Round-Up **12.15** SPFL Highlights **12.30** Bundesliga Highlights Show **1.30** EFL League One Goals **2.00** EFL League Two Goals **2.30** WSL **3.00** SPFL Round-Up **3.15** SPFL Highlights **3.30** EFL Highlights **4.30** Bundesliga Highlights Show **5.30** WSL **6.00** EFL League One Goals **6.30** EFL League Two Goals **7.00** EFL Highlights **7.15** EFL Highlights **7.30** LIVE **EFL** Doncaster Rovers v Leyton Orient (kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the League One match from Eco-Power Stadium. **10.30** SPFL Round-Up **10.45** SPFL Highlights **11.00** WSL **11.30** EFL Greatest Games **12.00m't** SPFL Greatest Games **2.00** EFL Greatest Games **4.00** EFL Cup **5.00** Best Goals: EFL Cup 2021-22 **5.30-6.00am** EFL Trophy Football

SKY SPORTS GOLF

6.00am Best of the Open Zone 2018 **7.00** Nick Dougherty's Tee Time Tips **8.00** The Open Zone **8.30** DP World Tour Golf **9.30** The Golf Fitness Show **10.00** PGA Tour Champions Learning Centre **11.00** PGA Tour Golf **12.00noon** DP World Tour Golf **1.00** TGL **3.00** PGA Tour Champions Learning Centre **4.00** Best of the Open Zone 2024 **5.00** PGA Tour Golf **6.00** DP World Tour Golf **7.00** TGL **9.00** PGA Tour Champions Learning Centre **10.00** Ryder Cup – Official Films **11.00** Beyond the Scorecard **12.30am** You Can Play Golf **1.00** PGA Tour Golf **2.00** How the 2006 Ryder Cup Was Won **5.00-6.00am** Nick Dougherty's Tee Time Tips

TNT SPORTS 1

6.00am PL Review **7.00** UEFA Champions League Magazine **7.30** The Gallagher PREM – The Wrap Up **7.45** One Day International Cricket **8.45** LIVE **One Day International Cricket** Sri Lanka v England. Coverage of the third and final ODI in the series from R. Premadasa Stadium. **5.00pm** Original Documentary. Untold stories of the FA Cup. **6.30** TNT Sports Cricket Reload **7.00** LIVE **German Masters Snooker** Further coverage from the second day of the tournament. **10.00** Premier League Reload **10.15** The Gallagher PREM – The Wrap Up **10.30** Fight Week **11.00** Fight Week **11.30** UEFA Champions League Magazine **12.00m't** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine **12.30** LIVE **Australian Open** Coverage of day 11. **5.30-6.00am** Ninja A-League Women Highlights

TNT SPORTS 2

6.00am Crouchy and Cole **6.30** Roll The Tape **7.00** German Masters Snooker **9.00** UEFA Champions League Highlights Show **11.00** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Highlights Show **12.00noon** WRC Review **1.00** Premier League Review **2.00** LIVE **German Masters Snooker** Further coverage from the second day of the tournament. **5.00** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine **5.30** Premier League – The Big Interview **6.00** Premier League Netbusters **6.30** Premier League Stories **7.00** LIVE **German Masters Snooker** Further coverage from the second day of the tournament. **10.00** Fishing: On the Bank **11.00** WRC Review **12.00m't** Isuzu UTE A-League **1.00** Isuzu UTE A-League **2.00** Isuzu UTE A-League **3.00** Isuzu UTE A-League **4.00** Isuzu UTE A-League **5.00-6.00am** Isuzu UTE A-League

BEST OF THE REST – LIVE SPORT

7.35-9.45pm LIVE **EFL** Cardiff City v Barnsley (kick-off 7.45pm). (Sky Sports +)

Entertainment & Factual

ITV3 Freeview 10

6.00am Never the Twain **6.30** On the Buses **7.05** Classic Emmerdale **7.35** Classic Coronation Street **9.10** Inspector Morse **11.20** Heartbeat **1.25pm** Foyle's War **3.35** Classic Emmerdale **5.15** Classic Coronation Street **5.50** Heartbeat **8.00** Vera. Murder mystery. **10.00** Foyle's War **12.00m't** Trial & Retribution **1.30-2.30am** The Larkins

ITV4 Freeview 26

6.00am The Big Match Revisited **8.05** Magnum, PI **9.05** Kojak **10.10** Boon **11.20** The Sweeney **12.25pm** Robin of Sherwood **1.35** Magnum, PI **2.40** Kojak **3.45** Boon **4.50** The Sweeney **5.55** Minder **7.00** More Than Machine **8.00** World Rally Championship Highlights **9.00** Ice Road Truckers **10.00** All Elite Wrestling: Collision **12.00m't** Dark Side of the Ring **12.55** Auf Wiedersehen, Pet **1.50** Minder **2.50** Unwind with ITV **3.00** Teleshopping **3.30-4.00am** Auto Mundial

5STAR Freeview 32

8.00am Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun **10.00** Shoplifters: Caught Red Handed **11.00** Traffic Cops **2.00pm** Police Interceptors **5.00** Extreme Nightmare Tenants **6.00** Home and Away **7.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **8.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **9.00** Fare Dodgers: At War with the Law. Officers carry out a major sting. **10.00** 999: Critical Condition **11.00** Skin A&E **12.00m't** 999: Killer on the Line **1.00** GPs: Behind Closed Doors **2.00** Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts **2.45** Skin A&E **3.30-4.00am** Friends

REALLY Freeview 44

6.00am Celebrity Fantasy Homes **7.00** Cruise TV with LoveitBookit **8.00** Escape to the Country **9.00** Salvage Hunters **12.00noon** Antiques Road Trip **2.00** The Repair Shop **3.00** The Yorkshire Auction House **4.00** Long Lost Family **5.00** A Place in the Sun **6.00** Salvage Hunters **9.00** Long Lost Family **10.00** Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. Most memorable searches. **11.00** Help! My House Is Haunted **2.00am** Teleshopping **4.00-6.00am** Salvage Hunters

5ACTION Freeview 33

9.00am Entertainment News on 5 **9.05** Winter Road Rescue **9.40** Police Interceptors **11.45** FILM Beyond the Law (1968/12) ★★★ **2.00** FILM A Man Alone (1955/U) ★★★ **4.00** The Motorway **5.00** Traffic Cops **6.00** Police Interceptors **8.00** Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders **10.00** Police: Suspect No 1 **11.00** Banged Up Abroad **12.05am** World's Deadliest Weather: Caught on Camera **1.05** Ice Road Truckers **2.05-4.00am** Trucking Hell

SKY ARTS Freeview 36

6.00am Classic FM Live at the Movies **8.00** The Joy of Painting **9.00** Tales of the Unexpected **10.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.00** The Directors **12.00noon** Discovering: Russell Crowe **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected **2.00** The Art of the Garden **3.00** Cleo Laine: The Unseen Home Movies **4.00** The Directors **5.00** Discovering: Julianne Moore **6.00** Tales of the Unexpected **7.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **8.00** The World in a Painting: Ingres' Diamond **9.15** Katharine Hepburn: Call Me Kate

Live One-Day International Cricket
TNT Sports 1, 8.45am
Jacob Bethell (left) and England take on Sri Lanka in the third and final ODI of the three-match series in Colombo. The T20 series begins in Pallekele on Friday.

11.15 Elvis: Tortured Soul **12.35am** Johnny Cash: Cash for Kenya **2.00** Landscape Artist of the Year 2026 **3.00** FILM National Theatre Live: Frankenstein (2011/15) Starring Jonny Lee Miller. ★★★★★ **5.00-6.00am** National Treasures: The Art of Collecting

U&GOLD

7.30am Ever Decreasing Circles **8.00** The Green Green Grass **8.40** Dad's Army **9.20** Are You Being Served? **10.00** Open All Hours **10.40** Keeping Up Appearances **11.20** Last of the Summer Wine **12.40pm** The Green Green Grass **1.20** Ever Decreasing Circles **2.00** Dad's Army **2.40** Are You Being Served? **3.20** Open All Hours **4.00** Ever Decreasing Circles **4.40** Last of the Summer Wine **6.00** Keeping Up Appearances **6.40** Open All Hours **7.20** Dad's Army **8.00** The Vicar of Dibley **10.00** Men Behaving Badly **10.40** The Vicar of Dibley **12.40am** Men Behaving Badly **1.20** The Vicar of Dibley **3.15-4.00am** Men Behaving Badly

U&YESTERDAY Freeview 27

6.10am Great Continental Railway Journeys **8.00** Bangers & Cash **10.00** Secrets and Spies: A Nuclear Game **11.00** World War Weird **12.00noon** Antiques Roadshow **2.00** Bangers & Cash **4.00** Secrets and Spies: A Nuclear Game **5.00** World War Weird **6.00** Antiques Roadshow **7.00** Great Canal Journeys **8.00** Flipping Bangers **9.00** Bangers & Cash. Four episodes. **1.00am** Abandoned Engineering **2.00-3.00am** Secrets and Spies: A Nuclear Game

U&ALIBI

7.15am Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Father Brown **10.00** The Mentalist **11.00** Hudson & Rex **12.00noon** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries **4.00** The Mentalist **5.00** Hudson & Rex **6.00** Father Brown **7.00** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries **8.00** Death in Paradise **9.00** Dark Winds. Leaphorn and Chee call upon all their resources to solve the case. Last in series. **10.00** Death in Paradise **11.00** Father Brown **12.00m't** So Help Me Todd **1.00** Death in Paradise **2.00-4.00am** Murdoch Mysteries

SKY MAX

6.00am Hawaii Five-0 **8.00** The Flash **9.00** Stargate SG-1 **11.00** SEAL Team **12.00noon** The Flash **1.00** Hawaii Five-0 **3.00** S.W.A.T **4.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **5.00** SEAL Team **6.00** Stargate SG-1 **8.00** Rob & Romesh vs Team GB: Winter Special **9.00** FILM No Escape (2015/15) An American family relocates to an Asian nation, but faces a battle for survival when a revolution sweeps the country. Action thriller, with Owen Wilson and Pierce Brosnan. ★★★ **11.00** Fear the Walking Dead **12.00m't** The Force: North East **2.00** Road Wars **3.00** S.W.A.T **4.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **5.00-6.00am** Highway Patrol

SKY ATLANTIC

6.00am Urban Secrets **7.00** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **8.00** Boardwalk Empire **10.10** The Sopranos **12.20pm** Game of Thrones **2.30** The Wire **4.40** Westworld **5.45** Deadwood **6.50** Game of Thrones **9.00** Succession **11.15** Deadwood **12.20am** The Sopranos **2.25** Game of Thrones **4.35** In Treatment **5.05-6.00am** Fish Town

SKY WITNESS

6.00am Nothing to Declare **8.00** Border Patrol **9.00** Send in the Dogs **10.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line **11.00** A1: Britain's Longest Road **12.00noon** FBI **1.00** The Rookie **3.00** Watson **4.00** Law & Order: Criminal Intent **5.00** Nothing to Declare **7.00** Police 24/7 **8.00** Law & Order: Criminal Intent **9.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit **10.00** Fire Country **11.00** The Rookie **12.00m't** FBI **1.00** Law & Order: Criminal Intent **2.00** Matlock **3.00** Doc **4.00** Road Wars **5.00-6.00am** Send in the Dogs

SKY COMEDY

8.00am Will & Grace **9.00** Ballers **10.20** Sex and the City **11.30** Entourage **12.30pm** Will & Grace **1.30** Sex and the City **2.40** Ballers **3.50** And Just Like That **4.45** The Office (US) **5.45** Will & Grace **6.45** Community **7.45** Sex and the City **9.00** FILM The Accidental Husband (2008/12) Romantic comedy, starring Uma Thurman and Colin Firth. ★★ **10.45** And Just Like That **11.35** Community **12.35am** Entourage **1.45** Ballers **3.00** Curb Your Enthusiasm **4.20-5.00am** Silicon Valley

DISCOVERY

6.00am How Do They Do It? **7.00** Wheeler Dealers **9.00** Gold Rush: White Water **11.00** Diesel Brothers **1.00pm** Deadliest Catch **3.00** How Do They Do It? **5.00** Alaska: Homestead Rescue **7.00** Wheeler Dealers **9.00** Gold Rush. Rick makes a big score at Vegas Valley. **10.00** Gold Rush. Favourite moments. **11.00** Expedition Unknown **12.00m't** Deadliest Catch **1.00** Gold Rush **3.00** Gold Divers **4.00-5.00am** Moonshiners

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

8.00am Britain's Greatest Machines with Chris Barrie **9.00** Air Crash Investigation **10.00** Lost Treasures of Rome **11.00** WW2: Hell Under the Sea **12.00noon** World War II: Secrets from Above **1.00** Air Crash Investigation **3.00** Liberation: D-Day to Berlin **4.00** WW2 Wrecks: Draining the Ocean **5.00** Ice Road Rescue **6.00** Nazi Megastructures **7.00** Air Crash Investigation **8.00** Unmasking the Killers of the Third Reich **9.00** Anne Frank: The Nazi Capture **10.00** Nazis at Nuremberg: The Lost Testimony **11.00** Air Crash Investigation **12.00m't** Car S.O.S **1.00** To Catch a Smuggler **2.00** Trafficked with Mariana Van Zeller **2.30** Money Meltdown **3.20-4.10am** Food Factory

Movies

FILM4

11.00am This Gun for Hire (1942/PG) Thriller, with Alan Ladd and Veronica Lake. ★★★★ **12.40pm Roman Holiday** (1953/U) Romantic comedy, starring Audrey Hepburn. ★★★★★ **3.00 The Sheriff of Fractured Jaw** (1958/U) Western, starring Kenneth More. ★★★★ **5.05 Man in the Saddle** (1951/U) Western, with Randolph Scott and Alexander Knox. ★★★ **6.50 Flight of the Phoenix** (2004/12) Action adventure, starring Dennis Quaid. ★★★ **9.00 Knock at the Cabin** (2023/15) Premiere. Horror mystery, starring Dave Bautista. ★★★ **10.55 Glass** (2019/15) Thriller, starring James McAvoy and James McAvoy. ★★★★ **1.30-4.00am Terminator Genisys** (2015/12) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Emilia Clarke. ★★

SKY CINEMA PREMIERE

6.00am Super Charlie (2024/PG) Family animation, with the voice of Alex Kelly. ★★★ **7.30 Smurfs** (2025/PG) See 6.30pm. ★★★ **9.10 Xeno** (2025/PG) See 8.10pm. ★★★ **11.00 Beast of War** (2025/15) Thriller, starring Mark Coles Smith and Joel Nankervis. ★★ **12.35pm Safe House** (2025/15) Thriller, starring Hannah John-Kamen. ★★★ **2.10 Borderline** (2025/15) Dark comedy horror, starring Samara Weaving. ★★★ **4.00 Nuremberg** (2025/15) Thriller, starring Russell Crowe and Rami Malek. ★★★★ **6.30 Smurfs** (2025/PG) Fantasy comedy, featuring the voice of Rihanna. ★★★ **8.10 Xeno** (2025/PG) Fantasy adventure, with Lulu Wilson and Omari Hardwick. ★★★ **10.00 The Toxic Avenger** (2025/18) Comedy horror, starring Peter Dinklage. ★★★ **11.50 28 Years Later** (2025/15) Horror, starring Aaron Taylor-Johnson. ★★★★ **1.50am All the Devils Are Here** (2025/15) Thriller, starring Eddie Marsan. ★★★ **3.25-5.30am Cookster: The Darkest Days** (2024/15) Drama, starring Nick Moran. ★★★

SKY CINEMA DRAMA

4.15pm Parachute (2023/15) Comedy, with Courtney Eaton and Thomas Mann. ★★★★ **6.05 Two Mules for Sister Sara** (1970/15) Western, starring Clint Eastwood. ★★★★ **8.00 Amadeus** (1984/PG) Period drama, with F Murray Abraham and Tom Hulce. ★★★★★ **10.40 Night Call** (2024/15) Drama, starring Jonas Bloquet and Mustii. ★★★ **12.20am The Angels' Share** (2012/15) Comedy, starring Paul Brannigan. ★★★★ **2.05 Parachute** (2023/15) See 4.15pm. ★★★★ **3.55-6.00am Juliet & Romeo** (2025/PG) Musical, starring Clara Rugaard. ★★★★

SKY CINEMA FAMILY

4.05pm Sonic the Hedgehog 3 (2024/PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Jim Carrey, James Marsden and Tika Sumpter. ★★★ **6.00 IF** (2024/U) Fantasy adventure, starring Ryan Reynolds and Cailey Fleming. ★★★★ **7.55 Hook** (1991/U) Peter Pan adventure, with Robin Williams and Dustin Hoffman. ★★★ **10.25 Wicked** (2024/PG) Musical fantasy adventure, starring Cynthia Erivo. ★★★★ **1.15am Zathura: A Space Adventure** (2005/PG) Family sci-fi adventure, starring Josh Hutcherson and Jonah Bobo. ★★★★ **3.05 The Cat in the Hat** (2003/PG) Comedy, with Mike Myers and Dakota Fanning. ★★★ **4.40-6.30am Mousehunt** (1997/PG) Slapstick comedy, starring Nathan Lane. ★★★★

TALKING PICTURES TV

4.00pm A Good Read: Sherlock Holmes **4.55 The Lady from Shanghai** (1947/PG) Murder mystery, with Orson Welles. ★★★★ **6.55 The Man from UNCLE** Solo and Kuryakin seek out a scientist who has Hitler's body. **8.00 The Doll** Matty is infatuated with Phyllis Du Salle, and will stop at nothing to find her. **9.05 The Good Die Young** (1954/PG) Crime thriller, starring Laurence Harvey. ★★★ **11.10pm Hammer House of Mystery and Suspense** A band that vanished in the 1960s. **12.45am The Rough and the Smooth** (1959/PG) Melodrama, starring Tony Britton. ★★ **2.50 Sing As You Swing** (1937/U) Musical comedy, starring Charles Clapham. ★★ **4.00-5.00am Target: The Corruptors**

GREAT! MYSTERY

4.00pm Diagnosis Murder Dr Sloan investigates the murder of his old friend. **5.00 Murder, She Wrote** Crime drama. **6.00 Sue Thomas: FBEye** Detective thriller. **7.00 Castle** Beckett and Castle each have their own professional concerns to deal with. **8.00 Unforgettable** A college dropout is murdered. Poppy Montgomery stars. **9.00 Martha's Vineyard Mysteries: Poisoned In Paradise** (2021/PG) Thriller, starring Jesse Metcalfe, and Eric Keenleyside. ★★ **10.55 Mystery 101: Words Can Kill** (2019/PG) Crime thriller, starring Jill Wagner. ★★ **12.50am Dead Lines** (2010/PG) Thriller, starring Jeri Ryan and Anthony Lemke. ★★★ **2.30-4.00am Stolen in Her Sleep** (2021/PG) Thriller, starring Morgan Bradley. ★★★

Radio

BBC RADIO 1

97.6-99.8MHz 6.58am Newsbeat **7.00** Radio 1 Breakfast with Greg James **10.30** Newsbeat **10.33** Rickie, Melvin and Charlie **12.45pm** Newsbeat **1.00** Matt and Mollie **3.30** Newsbeat **3.33** Going Home with Katie and Jerry **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Radio 1's New Music Show with Jack Saunders **7.30** Radio 1's Live Lounge **8.00** Radio 1's Future Artists with Sian Eleri **10.00** Radio 1's Power Down Playlist with Sian Eleri **11.00** Martha **1.00am** Radio 1's Drum & Bass Mix-DNB60 **2.00** Radio 1 Anthems **4.00** Radio 1 Pop Anthems **5.00-6.58am** Early Breakfast with Dean McCullough

BBC RADIO 2

88-91MHz 6.30am The Scott Mills Breakfast Show **9.30** Vernon Kay **12.00noon** Jeremy Vine **2.00** DJ Spoony **4.00** Sara Cox **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower **7.00** Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist **7.30** Jo Whiley **9.00** The Jazz Show with Jamie Cullum **10.00** The Good Groove with Melvin Odoom **12.00m't** OJ Borg **3.00** Sounds of the 90s **4.00-6.30am** Owain Wyn Evans

BBC RADIO 3

90.2-92.4MHz 6.30am Breakfast **9.30** Essential Classics **1.00pm** Classical Live **4.00** Composer of the Week: Franz Xaver Wolfgang Mozart **5.00** In Tune **7.00** Classical Mixtape **7.30** Radio 3 in Concert **9.45** The Essay: On Disappointment **10.00** Night Tracks **11.30** 'Round Midnight **12.30-6.30am** Through the Night

CHOICE
Radio 3 In Concert
Radio 3, 7pm
As the Chineke! Orchestra celebrates a decade since its formation, Linton Stephens introduces works commissioned by the ensemble over the last 10 years at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall. The concert includes pieces by composers Nneka Cummins and Ayanna Witter-Johnson.

BBC RADIO 4

FM 92.4-94.6MHz 6.00am Today **9.00** Ransom Man **9.30** Inside Health **10.00** Woman's Hour **11.00** Screenshot **11.45** Book of the Week: Craftland **12.00noon** News **12.04** Call You and Yours **12.57** Weather **1.00** The World at One **1.45** The Fibre Factor **2.00** The Archers **2.15** Drama: Dedication **3.00** Lady Killers with Lucy Worsley **3.30** Thinking Allowed **4.00** A People's History of Punk **4.30** What's Up Docs? **5.00** PM **5.57** Weather **6.00** News **6.30** You Heard It Here First **7.00** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.00** The Newscast Review of the Year (So Far) **8.40** In Touch **9.00** Crossing Continents **9.30** The Bottom Line **10.00** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Memory Police **11.00** Cloning Jack **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.00m't** News **12.30** Book of the Week: Craftland **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As BBC World Service **5.00** News Summary **5.04** Yesterday in Parliament **5.32** Weather **5.34** Shipping Forecast **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45-6.00am** Farming Today

BBC RADIO 5 LIVE

693/909kHz 6.00am 5 Live Breakfast **9.00** Nicky Campbell **11.00** Naga Munchetty **2.00pm** Matt Chorley **4.00** 5 Live Drive **7.00** 5 Live Sport **8.00** 5 Live Rugby **9.00** 5 Live Sport **10.30** Tony Livesey **1.00am** Dotun Adebayo **5.00-6.00am** Wake Up to Money

BBC RADIO WALES

FM: 94.6MHz 6.00am Radio Wales News Update **6.05** Wake Up with Radio Wales **6.31** How Emily Goes Zen **7.00** Radio Wales Breakfast **9.00** Bronwen Lewis **11.59** The Phone In **2.00pm** Behnaz Akhgar **5.00** Radio Wales Drive **6.30** Science Cafe **7.00** Molly Palmer. New music from Wales and beyond. **10.00** Eleri Sion **12.00m't** Relax with Radio Wales **1.00-6.00am** As Radio 5 Live

CLASSIC FM

100-102MHz 6.30am Classic FM Breakfast with Dan Walker **9.00** The Classic FM Hall of Fame with Dan Walker **10.00** Alexander Armstrong **1.00pm** Anne-Marie Minhall **4.00** Margherita Taylor **7.00** Relaxing Evenings **10.00** Calm Classics **1.00am** Bill Overton **4.00-6.30am** Early Breakfast

ABSOLUTE RADIO

DAB 6.00am Dave Berry **10.00** Leona Graham **1.00pm** Ben Burrell **4.00** Bush and Richie **7.00** Danielle Perry **10.00** Jay Lawrence **1.00-6.00am** Dan Noble

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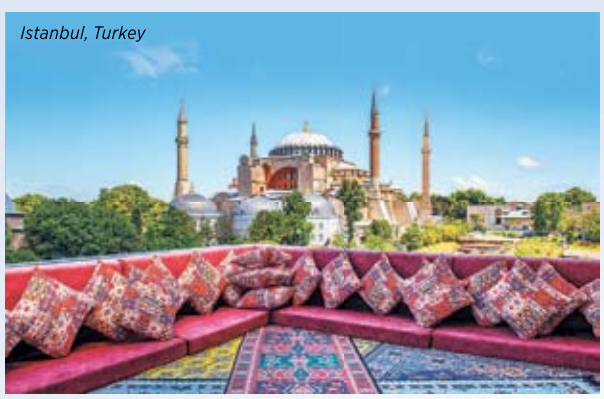
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RUSSELL GRANT

ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Another pleasant day, socially when even though you have your hands full, you might still choose to lend someone a hand. Somehow you will manage to fit in your own tasks along with those of others. There is a strong atmosphere of cooperation and harmony that will make this a day you won't forget in a hurry. Cherish these moments.

For more call **0905 789 4171**
(80p/min + network access charge)

TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 21

Make the most of any opportunity to make new social and business connections. When you meet someone new, don't just settle for a few quick words. Instead, try to encourage a more meaningful and open relationship. Someone might be carrying a heavier load than you. It will feel good to be able to offer them your support.

For more call **0905 789 4172**
(80p/min + network access charge)

GEMINI MAY 22-JUNE 21

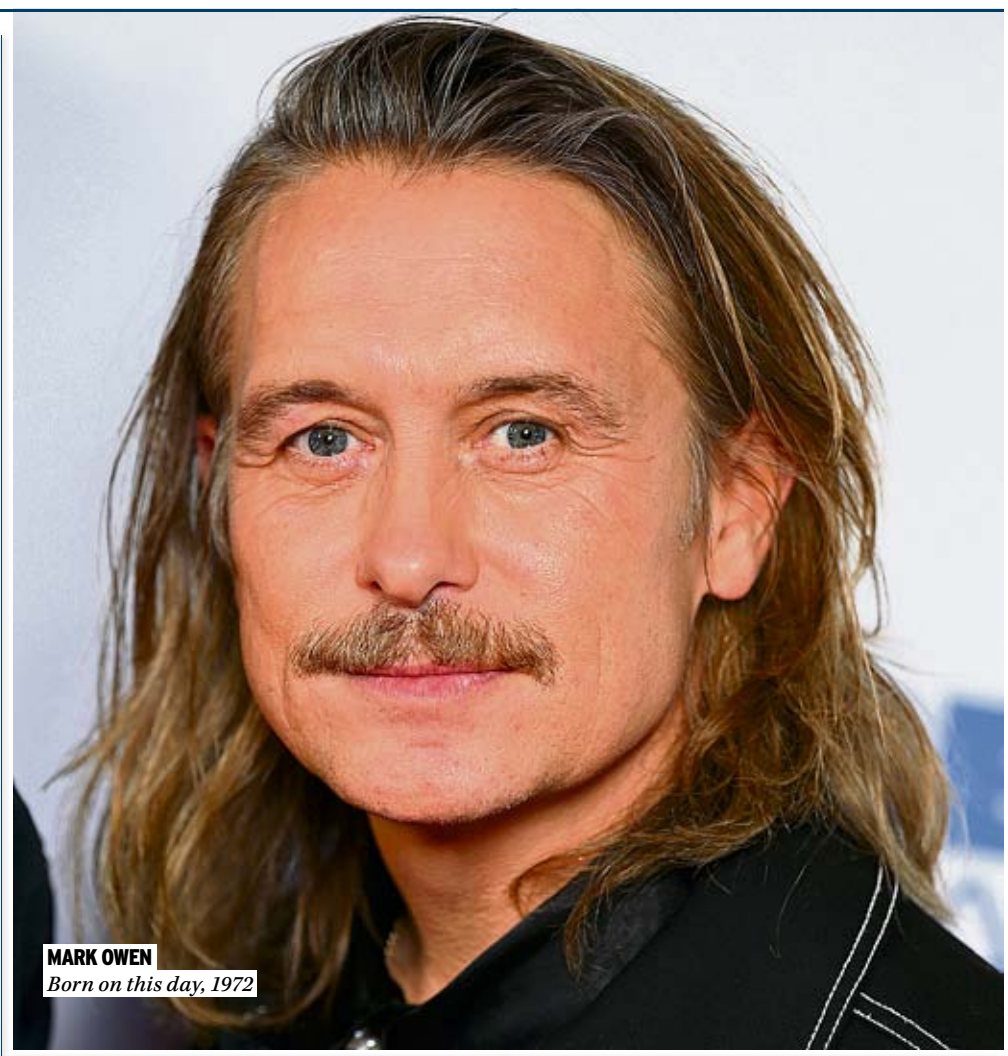
A goal you have been pursuing is on the verge of becoming reality. An unexpected offer will come your way that suddenly makes you hesitate. Trust your instincts. You aren't making any mistakes. Your decisions are good. Embrace the depth of your insight, it may lead to opportunities you hadn't considered. Stay open to the possibilities that surround you.

For more call **0905 789 4173**
(80p/min + network access charge)

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 23

On top of feeling suspicious of someone who seems to be hiding something from you, you're concerned about something personal to you that only a handful of people are aware of. There are hints that this has been discussed and you're curious to find out who has been talking about you. Trust your instincts, as they may lead you to uncover unexpected truths.

For more call **0905 789 4174**
(80p/min + network access charge)



MARK OWEN
Born on this day, 1972

LEO JULY 24-AUG 23

Plans you are considering with one person will not only affect just the two of you. There will be other people involved. While you are thinking about this and tempted by the idea of "what the eye can't see", it is recommended that you reconsider starting a secret affair. The ripples of such choices can extend far beyond your immediate circle.

For more call **0905 789 4175**
(80p/min + network access charge)

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 23

Someone you trust is open to listening without interrupting. You can say what's on your mind and vent a bit without feeling embarrassed about it. With their support you will gain a clearer perspective than you have had in quite a while. It will be a relief to see things more clearly, allowing you to embrace the clarity that comes from honest expression.

For more call **0905 789 4176**
(80p/min + network access charge)

LIBRA SEPT 24-OCT 23

If some home improvement plans, a job project or ideas for your garden are turning out to be more expensive than anticipated, it's not too late to rethink. Use your imagination and you will think of a way to reduce costs while still achieving your aims. Embrace this as an opportunity to discover new possibilities that inspire you in unexpected ways.

For more call **0905 789 4177**
(80p/min + network access charge)

SCORPIO OCT 24-NOV 22

Emotionally you're all at sea. You're doing your best to hide the fact you feel a little lost. Old ties pull even though you are aware that if you reach out to an old friend, the consequences won't be easy. If you're in a stable relationship, think about what this means to you. Reflect on the depth of your feelings, clarity emerges from contemplation.

For more call **0905 789 4178**
(80p/min + network access charge)

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

It would be best to avoid pushing your own views onto someone who is reluctant to make changes. Also, try not to appear overly confident during a test, meeting or interview. A friend's suggestion may be inappropriate. They mean well but you can't take them seriously. Take a step back to reflect on the situation and trust your instincts to guide you.

For more call **0905 789 4179**
(80p/min + network access charge)

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20

It will fall on you to resolve issues that crop up when others will seem to vanish. This feels unfair but you have always had a strong sense of responsibility. You feel duty-bound to tackle a challenge regardless of how unjust a situation. Embrace this as an opportunity to prove your resilience, your determination may inspire others to step forward.

For more call **0905 789 4180**
(80p/min + network access charge)

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 19

You're looking for something different. Be open to any unusual requests that arise early in the day. This is your chance to make good use of your skills. Use your imagination and be open to making changes that will add a touch of originality. Embrace this creative energy, as it may lead you to unexpected opportunities that can enrich your day.

For more call **0905 789 4181**
(80p/min + network access charge)

PISCES FEB 20-MARCH 20

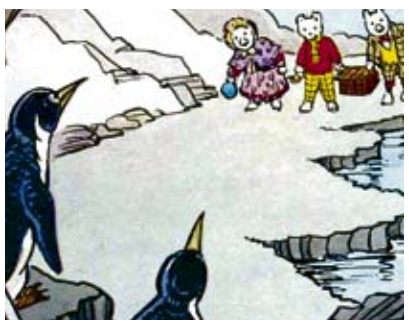
Let someone else take the lead for a while if you aren't at your best. A friend will insist on helping you out when you're feeling under the weather. A payment you've been eagerly anticipating will arrive later in the day, bringing a sense of relief. A new neighbour will soon be playing a major role in your life if you are single, opening doors to fresh possibilities.

For more call **0905 789 4182**
(80p/min + network access charge)

Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge - maximum of 5 minutes duration. You must be over 18 and have the bill payer's permission. Service provider Spoke. Helpline 0333 202 3390

NUTWOOD TALES

RUPERT AND THE PENGUINS No.24



The penguin sentries stare so hard,
As at the King's cave they keep guard.

"I'll run to the explorer's shack
And tell my news, while you unpack"

Rupert and the cousins Podgy and Rosalie press on to the explorer's rocky pool. "What a lovely spot! Are those white rocks made of ice?" exclaims Podgy. "No!" laughs Rupert. "The explorer painted them. And, look, there are the sentry penguins guarding the cave." "Fancy that!" cries Rosalie. "Oh, do let's have our picnic here. Perhaps we shall see more exciting things!" Leaving his chums, Rupert goes to find the explorer.

CALVIN AND HOBBES
BILL WATTERSON

WHILE I'M DOING THIS BRAIN SURGERY, YOU CAN MAKE A DONOR AND DO A HEART TRANSPLANT!
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AT A GLANCE

STOCK MARKET			
FTSE 100	10148.9	▲	+5.4
FTSE 250	23351.7	▲	+34.1
FTSE ALL SHARE	5478.5	▲	+3.5
Shares Traded	18058.1 million		

POPULAR SHARES ON THE RISE		
Abrdn	218½	+1½
AstraZeneca	13752	+172
Aviva	624¾	+5½
Barclays	480¾	+½
BP	444¾	+1¼
Centrica	184½	+½
Convatec Group	236½	+2½
GSK	1828½	+27½
HSBC Holdings	1242¼	+11¼
Lloyds Banking Group	103	+1¼
Marks & Spencer Group	364	+3
National Grid	1204	+12½
NatWest Group	650½	+3¾
Saga	405	+2
Sainsbury (J)	316½	+3½
Tesco	416½	+3½
Vodafone Group	104½	+½
Whitbread	2776	+25

POPULAR SHARES ON THE SLIDE		
BAE Systems	1973	-54
BT Group	182¾	-5½
Haleon	377¼	-2½
Int Consolidated Airlines	414¼	-4
Rolls-Royce Holdings	1235½	-17½
Shell	2672½	-15
Unilever	4861½	-2½

WORLD MARKETS			
WALL STREET	49412.4	▲	+313.7
TOKYO	52885.2	▼	-961.6
HONG KONG	26765.5	▲	+16.0
GERMANY	24933.1	▲	+32.4
FRANCE	8131.1	▼	-11.9

STERLING VALUE			
Dollar	1.369	▲	+0.005
Yen	210.873	▼	-1.627
Euro	1.153	▼	-0.001

DOLLAR VALUE			
Dollar/Yen	154.004	▼	-1.7501
Dollar/Euro	0.842	▼	-0.0035

COMMODITIES		
GOLD($)	▲	5102.40
KRUGERRAND(£)	▲	3723.76
SILVER(pence)	▲	8271.26
BRENT CRUDE($)	▼	64.65

OTHER INDICATORS	
Base rate	3.75%
Halifax mortgage rate	5.95%
Retail Price Index	+4.2% (CPI +3.4%)
House price Index	+2.5%
Unemployment	1,840,000

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TOURIST'S POUND

Australia	1.93 dollar
Canada	1.82 dollar
China	8.92 renminbi
Czech Rep.	26.27 koruna
Denmark	8.17 krone
Eurozone	1.13 euro
Hong Kong	10.02 dollar
Hungary	412.74 forint
Israel	4.02 shekel
Japan	202.08 yen
Jordan	0.90 dinar
Mexico	22.47 peso
New Zealand	2.23 dollar
Norway	12.83 krone
Poland	4.62 zloty
Saudi Arabia	4.88 riyal
South Africa	21.02 rand
Sweden	11.58 krona
Switzerland	1.03 franc
Thailand	40.72 baht
Turkey	55.14 lira
United States	1.34 dollar

Hospitality closures soar due to toll of pending tax hikes

By **Henry Saker-Clark**

HUNDREDS of British hospitality businesses shut their doors for good in the final months of 2025 due to tax hikes and soaring costs.

Industry data showed closures were particularly high among restaurants and casual dining venues.

Data from NIQ showed 382 net closures in the hospitality sector during the final three months of 2025 – the equivalent of four every day.

Pubs continue to face hard times

The country had 98,914 hospitality sites – including pubs, restaurants and cafes – at the end of December as a result.

Experts linked the decline, which took place in the key festive trading period, to continued inflation for many major costs, as well as fragile consumer confidence and spending.

The number of restaurants slid by 1% between September and December, with a 1.8% fall for casual dining businesses – representing 241 closures in total.

Pubs of all varieties saw a fall in the number of sites.

However, other parts of the sector were more robust, with the number of bars rising by 1% against the previous quarter, with many customers opting to spend on drinks over more expensive meals. The closure data comes amid a challenging backdrop, with industry bosses warning most sector firms face higher tax payments from April 1 due to changes to business rates.

The Government has indicated it is planning to announce additional support measures for pubs, but other parts of the sector – such as hotels and music venues – have warned there could be closures or price rises unless they also receive help.

Karl Chessell, director for hospitality operators and food at NIQ, said: "An acceleration in closures in the final quarter shows the toll that relentless increases in operating costs are taking on hospitality. The dip is particularly concerning as it came during hospitality's most important trading period of the year, when businesses usually build the cash reserves to get through the quieter start to the new year.

"Despite the Government's recent rethink on rates for pubs, conditions are unlikely to get any easier in 2026 and business confidence and sales growth both remain weak."

LIFT-OFF FOR RYANAIR CUSTOMERS

Airline's passenger totals rising, says boss Michael O'Leary, inset

RYANAIR flew 47.5 million passengers in its third quarter, up 6% on a year ago.

Strong demand plus early deliveries of Boeing planes are tipped to spur full-year growth of 4% to some 208 million – and chief executive Michael O'Leary expects 300 million by 2034.

Average fares rose by 4% to £38.18, with another 9% expected. Ryanair is "cautiously guiding" for full-year underlying profits after tax of up to £1.93bn – last year was £1.42bn.

But profits plunged 83% to £21.2m as bosses made provision after a £222m fine by Italy's competition watchdog for obstructing travel agencies from buying flights on its website.

Ryanair is appealing.

Gold is seen as a safe bet

Gold hits new record as Trump spooks investors

GOLD prices jumped above $5,000 amid heightened fears over Donald Trump's tariffs and policy changes.

It hit $5,097.24 (£3,733) per ounce yesterday morning, extending its record rally, while silver also passed $100.

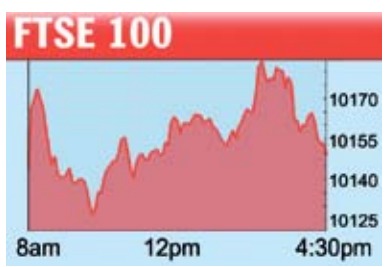
The flurry to the safe haven assets comes after investors fled the stock markets due to US president Trump's volatile behaviour. This includes 100% tariff threats to Canada if it makes a "deal" with China and a showdown with Europe over Greenland's future.

Richard Hunter, head of markets at Interactive Investor, said: "Haven investments are still in demand given the volatile backdrop, and silver posted a further 6% gain as a result. Gold taking its gain since the beginning of last year to 94%, with no immediate headwinds in sight to prevent further progress for the precious metal."

Gold's increase also came as the yen extended its advance against the dollar.

++ THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 THE FTSE 100 ++

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
3i Group	3129	-160	4459	2999
A.B. Foods	1881½	+2	2337	1838
Admiral Group	†			
Airtel Africa	357	-3¼	372¾	126
Alliance Trust	1266	-6	1324	1050
Anglo American	3448	+70	3484	2003¾
Antofagasta	3775	+191	3813	1383
Ashtead Group	5098#	-130	5594	3659
AstraZeneca	13752	+172	14346	9667
Auto Trader	549#	-19½	908½	548¾
Aviva	624¾	+5½	692½	493
Babcock International	1454		1502	518
BAE Systems	1973	-54	2093	1180½
Barclays	480¾	+½	489	241¾
Barratt Development	384	+1½	482¼	350
Beazley Group	1140	-12	1173	769
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4038	+22	4324	3524
BP	444¾	+1¼	476¼	331¾
British Amer.Tob	4308#	-20	4421	2965
British Land	411½	+1¾	420½	321¼
BT Group	182¾#	-5½	223¾	139½
Bunzl	2036	-22	3452	1989
Burberry Group	1173½	-22	1371½	627¾
Centrica	184½	+½	186¼	132¼
Coca-Cola HBC	3904	+14	4034	2788
Compass Group	2224#	-15	2843	2213
Convatec Group	236½	+2½	295½	221¼
CRH	8982	-38	9704	6142
Croda International	2789	+25	3383	2465
DCC	4554	-34	5600	4350
Diageo	1655	-20	2503½	1577
Diploma	5530#	+5	5685	3624
EasyJet	476	-5¾	587¾	427½
Entain	667¾	-4	1022	501¼
Experian Group	2932#	-97	4088	2901
F&C Inv Tst	1245#	+1	1272	962
Flutter Entert.	12720	-270	23630	12605
Fresnillo	4448	+280	4472	657
Games Workshop	17890#	+60	19840	12410
GlaxoSmithKline	1828½	+27½	1901½	1264
Glencore	500	-1	506¾	230
Haleon	377¼	-2½	415¼	326½
Halma	3640#	+2	3710	2360
Hikma	1568	+14	2340	1507
Hiscox	1518	+10	1530	1035
HSBC Holdings	1242¼	+11¼	1244¼	713¼
IMI	2732	+20	2750	1606
Imperial Brands	3011	-13	3312	2629
Informa	908	-5¾	993½	640¼
InterContinental Htl	9863¼	-3836¾	10122½	5418
Intermediate Cap.Grp	1887	-29	2450	1569
Intertek Group	4536	+2	5385	4064
Intl Consolidated Airlines	414¼	-4	437	224½
JD Sports	83¾	+1	104½	63¼
Kingfisher	323½	+4½	329¾	238½
Land Securities	645	+7½	654	499½
Legal & General	257	-1¼	267¾	215¼
Lloyds Banking Grp	103	+1¼	103½	61¼
London & Stamford Prop	200		204½	170½
London Stock Ex	8578	-190	12095	8138
M&G	306½	+4¾	307¾	172¾
Marks & Spencer	364	+3	411¼	318½
Melrose	633½	-1½	680	386
Mondi	891	+16¾	1326	819
National Grid	1204	+12½	1212	919¾
NatWest Group	650½	+3¾	665½	411¼
Next	13440		14580	9336
Pearson	963¼	-5¾	1379	929¾
Pershing Square Hold	4646	+96	5090	3244
Persimmon	1413	+7	1418½	1037½
Phoenix Group	723	+1	748½	499¼
Prudential	1166	+16½	1195½	655
Reckitt Benckiser	5954	-64	6228	4633
RELX	2867	-54	4135	2851
Rentokil Initial	472	-8¾	481½	309½
Rightmove	503¼	-3¾	823¾	494½
Rio Tinto	6676	+100	6746	4117
Rolls-Royce Group	1235½	-17½	1305	582¾
Sage Group	1043#	+14	1348	1020½
Sainsbury (J)	316½	+3½	355¾	228¾
Schroders	458½	+1¾	467	289¼
Scottish Mortgage	1202	-8	1215½	815¼
SEGRO	752	+22½	756½	599
Severn Trent	2855	+41	2907	2370
Shell	2672½	-15	2931½	2291½
Smith & Nephew	1234½	+9	1435	937¾
Smiths Group	2638	+20	2662	1687
Smurfit Kappa	3211	+157	4462	2558
Spirax-Sarco	7215	+50	8190	5445
SSE	2356#	+34	2374	1463½
St James's Place	1459½	-32	1515½	791
Standard Chartered	1833½	+4½	1878½	878¾
Tesco	416½	+3½	475½	314½
Unilever	4861½	-2½	6177½	4631
United Utilities	1214½#	+22	1242	944½
Vodafone Group	104½#	+½	105½	64
Weir Group	3228	+50	3254	1984
Whitbread	2776	+25	3274	2335



Bank fined £160k over Russian link

BANK of Scotland has been fined £160,000 by a UK Treasury body for processing payments that breached Russia financial sanctions rules.

It authorised 24 payments to or from a current account held by a British citizen on the Government's list of sanctioned individuals, the Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation found.

The payments, made between February 8 and February 24, 2023, totalled £77,383. The UK has imposed sanctions on sectors, businesses and individuals who may be helping Russia's war in Ukraine.

Most individuals hit by the OFSI are subject to an asset freeze and an investment ban.

The penalty for Bank of Scotland, which is part of Lloyds Banking Group, was cut by 50% as it voluntarily disclosed the breaches.

+ BG + Barclays + BT + Centrica + Dixons Carphone + First Group + HSBC + Kingfisher + Marks & Spencer + Next + Prudential + Rolls-Royce + Sainsburys + Tesco + Unilever + Vodafone + Whitbread + WPP

SHARES AT A GLANCE

COMPANY	CLOSE	+/-	52 WEEK HIGH	52 WEEK LOW
Aerospace & Defence				
Avon Rubber	1918	-26	2180	1338
Babcock International	1454		1502	518
BAE Systems	1973	-54	2093	1180½
Chemring Group	514	-10	593	297½
QinetiQ Group	513#	-9	572	361
Rolls-Royce Group	1235½	-17½	1305	582¾
Senior	252	+1½	258	115¾
Alternative Energy				
Porvair	876	+6	900	626
Banks				
Barclays	480¾	+½	489	241¾
Bco Santander	918	+6	928	400½
Close Brothers	518½	+½	550½	266½
HSBC Holdings	1242¼	+11¼	1244¼	713¼
Investec	603	+2	608¼	414
Lloyds Banking Grp	103	+1¼	103½	61¼
Metro Bank	130		133½	81
NatWest Group	650½	+3¾	665½	411¼
Paragon Group	895½	-4½	970	686½
Standard Chartered	1833½	+4½	1878½	878¾
Beverages				
Barr (AG)	635		711	579
Coca-Cola HBC	3904	+14	4034	2788
Diageo	1655	-20	2503½	1577
Chemicals				
Carclo	58	+½	80	21
Croda International	2789	+25	3383	2465
Elementis	168¼	+1	176½	115
Johnson Matthey	2388#	+30	2396	1156
Synthomer	57¼	+¼	158¼	46
Treatt	210	-4	444	186½
Victrex	740	+1	1048	589
Construction & Materials				
Balfour Beatty	718	+10	735	390½
Costain Group	173½	+11½	181½	86
CRH	8982	-38	9704	6142
Dialight	305		364	91¾
Galliford Try	535	+1	549	321
Gleeson (MJ)	396	-5	538	320
Keller Group	1742		1756	1240
Kier Group	222½	-1	231½	115¼
Marshalls	160¾	-2	293	159½
Morgan Sindall	4915	+25	4985	2945
Severfield-Rowen	28¾	+1¾	52¼	19
Smart (J) & Co	132½#		132½	110
Electricity				
Drax Group	893½	-4½	910½	536½
SSE	2356#	+34	2374	1463½
Telecom Plus	1358	+28	2085	1326
Electronic & Electrical Equipment				
Acal	615	-6	738	486
Halma	3640#	+2	3710	2360
Oxford Instruments	2525	+20	2525	1500
Renishaw	3750	-90	3875	2145
TT Electronics	109½	-½	154	73
XP Power	1196	-6	1306	621
Equity Investment Instruments				
Aberdeen Asian Sml	379	-1	383	256
Aberforth Smll.Co.	1666	+12	1668	1212
Acorn Income				
Albion Tech.& Gen. VCT	66		71	65½
Alliance Trust	1266	-6	1324	1050
Aurora Inv.Tst.	276		279	212½
AVI Global Tst	264	-½	266½	202
Baillie Gifford Japan	911	-2	951	657
Baillie Gifford Shin Nip	138	+½	139¾	95½
Bankers Inv.Tst	132½#	-½	136	101
Baronsmead VCT.2	48½		52	46½
BH Macro GBP	414	+12½	414½	371½
Biotech Growth Trust	1255	-20	1285	620
BlackRock Mining	1022	+43	1028	406½
Bluehone AiM VCT2	28¼		31	28¼
British Assets Tst	27¾	-¼	49¼	26¼
Brunner Inv.Tst.	1450	-12	1490	1140
Caledonia Inv.	374		391½	334½
City Natural Res.Yld	435	+14	436¾	165¾
City Of London	542#	+1	549	411½
Dunedin Ent.IT.				
Dunedin Income	309		312	262
Edin Wwide Inv	223½	+½	229½	143
Edin.Inv.Tst.	812	-2	839	680
Edin.US Tracker	379½#	-2	386½	289½
Elderstreet VCT	38¾		41	36½
F&C Cap&Inc.	350	+1½	354	287
F&C Inv Tst	1245#	+1	1272	962
F&C Smaller Cos	182¾#	-¾	184¾	136½
F&C US Smaller Companies	1400	-15	1497½	1115
Fidelity Asian	618	+2	628	454
Fidelity European	428	+1	434	338½
Fidelity Special	431	+½	435	295½
Finsbury Gwth&In	805	-8	962	795
Foresight Tech.VCT	65½		75½	62
Genesis E.M.F.	1170	+4	1180	632
Graphite Ent	1522	-2	1600	1070
Hansa Tst 'A'	276	+4	276	190
Hansa Tst Plc	272	-2	278	192½
Henderson Far Est	253		254½	190½
Henderson High Inc	195¾#	+1¾	197	151
Herald Inv.Tst.	2600	-30	2640	1738
HGCapital Tst.	502		538	448
HSBC Infrastructure	116½	-¾	125¼	106
Impax Env.Mkt	418	-10	431	310½
Int.Biotech.Tst.	958	-22	996	480
International Public	127½	-½	130	107¾
Invesco Asia	434	-6	447	300
Invesco Perp UK	390	+2	394	313½
JPM American	1114	-6	1180	869
JPM Asian	482½#	-2	490	331½
JPM Claverhouse	876	-2	888	660
JPM Emerg Mkt	143¾#	-¼	145½	95
JPM Euro Sml Co.	620#	+2	623¾	444½
JPM Global Emerging	182	+½	184½	118½
JPM Indian	949	-8	1106	904
JPM Japanese	742#	+1	759	493
JPM Overseas IT	579	-4	609	480
JPM Smaller Co	342	+2½	342½	253
JPM US Sml Co.	412	-6	514	338
Jupiter Euro.	936	+3	959	757
JZ Capital Partners	185	-3	220	184
Law Debenture	1124	+2	1142	788
Lowland Invest Co	168¼#	+1¼	169	114½
Majedie Inv.	276	+1	280	230
Manchester&Lon.	787	+5	944	512
Martin Currie Prtflo Tst.	350#	-1	383	295
Maven Income And Growth VCT 34½			38	33½
Mercantile Inv Tst	266½#	-½	268¾	202½
Merchants Tst	619	+3	621¼	474
Mid Wynd Int.	780	-2	836	664
Monks Inv.Tst.	1526	-14	1554	1036
Montanaro Euro Tst.	170		183½	138
Montanaro Uk	105½#	+½	106½	87¾
Murray Inc.Tst.	932	+1	938	754
Murray Int.Tst	333#	+1½	335	239
New India	708	-4	832	686
New Star Inv.Tst.	129½		131	100
North Atl.Smlr.Tst				
Northern 2 VCT	53½		57	52½
Northern Venture	56½		58½	55½
Oxford Tech 2 VCT	6½		7	5½
Pacific Assets.	370	-4	378	302
Pacific Horizon	867		872	507
Pantheon Int.	386½	-2½	389½	266
Pershing Square Hold	4646	+96	5090	3244
Polar Cap.Tech	491½		494½	255½
RCM Technology Trust	543	-4	550	307
RIT Capital Partners	2210	-15	2275	1722
Ruffer Investment	304	-4	308	272½
Schroder Asia	692#	-4	702	461½
Schroder Inc.	354#	+2½	355	255
Schroder Japan	326#	-2	334	209
Schroder UK	209	-1	211	158½
Schroder UK M&S	750	+2	750	520
Scottish American	521		525	454½
Scottish Mortgage	1202	-8	1215½	815¼
Shires Inc.	317½#	+2	320	222
Small Comp Div.Tst	137		150½	124
Standard Life Equity	419		422	288½
Standard Life UK Sml	522	-2	531	426
Temple Bar.	380	-½	386½	258
Templeton Emrg.	257#	-1	258½	151¾
The European Inv.Tst	110#		111½	84
Throgmorton Tst.	657	+1	660	469
TR Euro.Growth	227	+1	227	163
TR Prop. IT	326	+1	338½	277½
Witan Pacific	314	-4½	322	223
Wwide Healthcare	373	-3	397	265½
Financial Services				
3i Group	3129	-160	4459	2999
3i Infrastructure	373½	-1½	385	301
Abrdn	218½	+1½	225¼	123¾
Ashmore Group	237½	+3¼	241¼	125
Guinness Peat Group	86	-¼	96	68¼
IG Group	1359	-1	1367	913
Intermediate Cap.Grp.	1887	-29	2450	1569
International Pers Fin	236	-½	237	121½
IP Group	57½	-½	65	34¾
Jupiter Fund Man.	187¼	-2	190½	68
Liontrust Asset Man	245½	-4½	458	231½
London Stock Ex.	8578	-190	12095	8138
M&G	306½	+4¾	307¾	172¾
Man Group	260	-3½	271¾	154¾
Provident Financial	1171¼		1281½	49
Rathbone Brothers	2205	+15	2245	1406
S & U	2350	+20	2390	1330
Schroders	458½	+1¾	467	289¼
St James's Place	1459½	-32	1515½	791
Tullett Prebon.	257	-2½	311½	228
Walker Crips Group	13½	+¼	15	7½
Fixed Line Telecommunications				
Airtel Africa	357	-3¼	372¾	126
BT Group	182¾#	-5½	222¾	139½
Food & Drug Retailers				
Greggs	1665	+2	2182	1418
Marks & Spencer	364	+3	411¼	318½
Ocado	242¼	-4¼	395½	172¼
Sainsbury (J)	316½	+3½	355¾	228¾
Tesco	416½	+3½	475½	314½
Food Producers				
A.B. Foods.	1881½	+2	2337	1838
Anglo-Eastern	1505	+10	1525	628
Carr's Milling	136¼#	-3¾	157	117
Cranswick.	5150	+50	5490	4625
Glanbia	1449¼	+112¾	1449¼	789¾
Greencore Group	278#	+13	278½	169¼
Kerry Grp 'A' Shs.	6473½	+156¼	8764¼	6178½
Premier Foods	184½	-5	214½	167
REA Holdings	130	+5	133	61½
Tate & Lyle	379	+1¼	661	358
Gas, Water & Multiutilities				
Centrica	184½	+½	186¼	132¼
National Grid	1204	+12½	1212	919¾
Pennon Group	549	+3½	557	387½
Severn Trent	2855	+41	2907	2370
United Utilities	1214½#	+22	1242	944½
General Industrials				
Bunzl	2036	-22	3452	1989
Goodwin	25700	+500	26200	6180
Melrose	633½	-1½	680	386
Mondi.	891	+16¾	1326	819
Smiths Group	2638	+20	2662	1687
Smurfit Kappa	3211	+157	4462	2558
General Retailers				
ASOS.	327	+10½	436½	218½
Auto Trader	549#	-19½	908½	548¾
B&M Europ Value Ret	169	+7¼	344½	155¼
Caffyns.	415		500	415
Dixons Carphone	145#	+1¾	146¼	85¼
Dunelm	947	-4	1232	858½
Frasers Group	686½	+5	770	546
Halfords Group	147½	-1¼	174½	116¼
Headlam Group.	43¾	-1½	137	42½
Howden Joinery	845½	-10½	914½	679½
Inchcape	801½	-8½	816	638
JD Sports	83¾	+1	104½	63¼
Kingfisher	323½	+4½	329¾	238½
Next.	13440		14580	9336
Pets At Home	203½	+1¼	273¼	192
RM Group.	110		118	82
Topps Tiles	41½#	-¾	50	29
WH Smith	680#	+5	1307	613½
Health Care Equipment & Services				
Convatec Group	236½	+2½	295½	221¼
Flying Brands	+½		1¾	+½
Smith & Nephew	1234½	+9	1435	937¾
Household Goods & Home Construction				
Barratt Development	384	+1½	482¼	350
Bellway	2700	+12	2982	2166
Berkeley Grp Hldgs	4038	+22	4324	3524
Bovis Homes	649	+4½	701	510¾
Mcbride.	145¾	+½	159	107
Persimmon	1413	+7	1418½	1037½
Reckitt Benckiser	5954	-64	6228	4633
Taylor Wimpey	106	-¼	123¼	93
Industrial Engineering				
Bodycote	759	-4½	772	460½
Hill & Smith	2280	-60	2365	1530
IMI	2732	+20	2750	1606
Morgan Crucible.	236	-2	274	177½
Northgate	376	+1½	395	273½
Rotork	349½	+2½	352¼	275¾
Spirax-Sarco	7215	+50	8190	5445
Vesuvius	468	-11	489½	313¾
Weir Group	3228	+50	3254	1984
Xaar.	112	+2	145	59
Industrial Metals & Mining				
Castings.	276	+7½	319	234
Evraz				
Ferrexpo	78½	-2½	110¾	44¼
Industrial Transportation				
Braemar Shipping Serv	220	-½	275	201
Clarkson	4100	+15	4505	2995
FirstGroup	186½	+¾	233	146½
Fisher (J) & Sons	381	-2	403	285
Leisure Goods				
Games Workshop	17890#	+60	19840	12410
Photo-Me Intl.	138	-1½	230	132
Life Insurance				
Aviva	624¾	+5½	692½	493
Chesnara.	302	+½	305	212¾
Legal & General	257	-1¼	267¾	215¼
Phoenix Group	723	+1	748½	499¼
Prudential	1166	+16½	1195½	655
Media				
4imprint Group	4265	-30	6030	3035
Bloomsbury Publish.	503	+4	672	468
Future.	532#	+1	1029	492½
Informa	908	-5¾	993½	640¼
ITV	82	+½	87¾	66¼
Pearson	963¼	-5¾	1379	929¾
Reach	60½	+1½	88¼	53
STV Group	112½	-2	202	103
Wilmington Group.	292	-1	387	289
WPP Group	321	-1¼	787¾	269
Mining				
Anglo American	3448	+70	3484	2003¾
Anglo Pacific	152½#	+6	154½	50
Antofagasta.	3775	+191	3813	1383
BHP Billiton	2500	+35	2522	1609½
Endeavour Mining	4542	+176	4580	1519
Fresnillo.	4448	+280	4472	657
Gem Diamonds.	3		12	2¾
Glencore	500	-1	506¾	230
Hochschild Mining.	750½	+48½	768½	168
Kenmare Res.	263	+5	436	227
Petra Diamonds	15¾	-¼	30½	10½
Rio Tinto	6676	+100	6746	4117
Mobile Telecommunications				
Vodafone Group	104½#	+½	105½	64
Nonequity Investment Instruments				
Oryx Int.Gwth.	1265	+10	1392½	1042½
Rights &Iss.Inc	2050	-15	2220	1670
Nonlife Insurance				
Admiral Group				
Beazley Group	1140	-12	1173	769
Hiscox.	1518	+10	1530	1035
Lancashire	613	-2	694	523
Oil & Gas Producers				
BP	444¾	+1¼	476¼	331¾
Cairn Energy	229½	+3	326½	183
Enquest	11¼	-¼	16½	9¾
Gulf Keystone Pet.	174	-6	224½	148¾
Harbour Energy.	213½	+1¾	254	151¼
Shell	2672½	-15	2931½	2291½
Soco International	21¾	+¾	25¼	18
Tullow Oil	7¼		21½	4
Oil Equipment, Services & Distribution				
Hunting.	440	+1½	441	246½
John Wood Group	26¼	-¼	72½	17¼
Personal Goods				
Burberry Group	1173½	-22	1371½	627¾
PZ Cussons	71¼	+1	88¼	66
Unilever	4861½	-2½	6177½	4631
Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology				
AstraZeneca	13752	+172	14346	9667
Genus.	2895	+80	2905	1548
GlaxoSmithKline	1828½	+27½	1901½	1264
Haleon	377¼	-2½	415¼	326½
Hikma.	1568	+14	2340	1507
Ovoca Gold	1¼			
Oxford Biomedica	864	-7	913	232½
Real Estate Investment & Services				
Boot (Henry)	221	+1	237	196
Cardiff Property	2700#		2700	2540
CLS Holdings	61¼	+¼	75	53½
Foxtons	50¾	-1	67¾	50½
Harworth Group	162	-3½	189½	159½
Mountview Est.	9025	-275	10200	8700
Panther Secs.	290		315	280
Rightmove	503¼	-3¾	823¾	494½
Savills	1076	+2	1110	871
Wynnstay Props.	860		875	695
Real Estate Investment Trusts				
Big Yellow Group	1042	+4	1180	848
British Land	411½	+1¾	420½	321¼
Capital & Counties	140¾	-1¼	161¼	113½
Derwent London	1931	+20	2096	1608
Grainger	191¼#	+1¾	228	177½
Great Portland Est.	353½	+3½	363	262
Hammerson	346	+7¼	348¼	220½
Helical Bar	192½	+½	240	174
Land Securities	645	+7½	654	499½
London & Stamford Prop	200		204½	170½
Primary Health.	104½	+¼	105½	87½
SEGRO	752	+22½	756½	599
Town Centre	124	+1	149	117
Unite Group	568½	-2½	879½	510
Value & Income	203½#		215	173
Workspace Group	414#	-9	473½	362
Software & Computer Services				
Computacenter	3360	-4	3368	2108
Intec Telecom				
Microgen	290	+3	344	255
Moneysupermarket	187¼	-2	221½	180½
Pendragon	369	-8½	558	296
RELX	2867	-54	4135	2851
Sage Group	1043#	+14	1348	1020½
Triad Group	286	+16	400	240
Support Services				
Ashtead Group	5098#	-130	5594	3659
Capita Group	388½	-6½	407½	175
DCC	4554	-34	5600	4350
Diploma	5530#	+5	5685	3624
Essentra	103½	-2½	126¼	89¾
Experian Group	2932#	-97	4088	2901
Ferguson.	18600#	+60	19470	11670
Hays	46	-½	88¼	45
Intertek Group	4536	+2	5385	4064
Johnson Service	142½	-1½	159½	124
London Security	2850		3800	2600
Macfarlane Group	71½	-½	120½	62¾
Mears Group	356	-2½	417½	311½
Michael Page	198¾	-5	341¼	193
Mitie Group	170½#	+1¾	171¾	112
Norish.	20		20	14
Paypoint	523	+7	853	438½
Rentokil Initial	472	-8¾	481½	309½
Robert Walters	127	-2½	306	116
RS Group.	647½	-3½	679	487¼
Serco Group	302½	-2	307	150½
SIG	9½	-½	18	8½
Smiths News.	65½#	-1	77½	47½
Speedy Hire.	25½	+½	32¼	18
SThree	184	-2	285	137½
Travis Perkins	663	+6	714	494
Trifast	80	+½	87½	59
Vitec Group	13¼	+¾	128	11
Technology Hardware & Equipment				
BATM Advanced	16	+¼	19¾	13
Tobacco				
British Amer.Tob	4308#	-20	4421	2965
Imperial Brands	3011	-13	3312	2629
Travel & Leisure				
888 Holdings	27¼	-2	73¾	21
Carnival	2070	-27	2406	1134
Celtic	200		210	142½
Compass Group	2224#	-15	2843	2213
Domino's Pizza	187	+2½	302¾	167¼
EasyJet	476	-5¾	587¾	427½
Entain	667¾	-4	1022	501¼
Flutter Entert.	12720	-270	23630	12605
Fuller Smith & Turner	710	-4	738	508
Heavitree	220		280	200
InterContinental Htl	9872	-135¼	10131¼	5422¾
Intl Consolidated Airlines	414¼	-4	437	224½
Irish Continental Uts	560		575	380
Marston's	66	+½	67¾	33¼
Mitchells & Butlers	265	-3	291½	208½
National Express	22¾		75	21
Rank Group	90¼	-3½	160½	78
Saga	405	+2	438	114¼
Wetherspoon (JD)	687½	-3	804	541
Whitbread	2776	+25	3274	2335
AIM				
Alumasc Group	237½	-1½	395	232
Arbuthnot Banking	885	+10	1100	837½
Boohoo	23¾	+¼	29¼	10½
Camellia	4950	+50	6050	4090
Churchill China	395	+15	710	324
CML Microsystems.	252	+7	335	210
Colefax Group	995	+20	1000	750
CPP Group	73	+5	162	60
Cropper (James)	370		400	132½
Falkland Islands	245#	-3	316¾	162½
Fevertree Drinks	901	+5	998	644½
Filtronic	195	-1	197	82½
James Halstead	136½		177	133
Mothercare	2	-¼	4¼	1¾
Mpac Group	380	+5	570	270
Naked Wine.	75	+½	93½	43
Nichols.	1025	+15	1465	930
Northamber	31#		34	26¼
Portmeirion.	99		189	94
Regal Petroleum	17	+½	23½	14½
Rockhopper Exploratn	71	-3¼	87¾	33¼
Ten Alps	47½		73	46½
Titon Holdings	95	+2½	100	69
Volex.	454	-11	477	198¾
Young & Co Brewery A.	852	-13	992	714

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Letters

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If Burnham's the answer then it's a stupid question

THE opinion polls tell us Keir Starmer is likely to get flushed down the drain in the battle to retain his position. Scatterbrained decisions, leading from the rear and making so many U-turns, it's no wonder we are losing credibility on the world stage.

The country has gone to rack and ruin in his term of office and the country deserves much better than this guy who has wantonly thrown businesses, farmers and pensioners under the bus. It's time for change, although whether that's Andy Burnham I'm not sure. It will be interesting if he does take on the leadership if he is true to his status as a "man of the people".

Peter Rushton,
Chorley, Lancs

Not one real contender out of 403 existing MPs?

SO THE Labour Party has 404 MPs, or should I say 403 and one Prime Minister. It says something about the quality of the current Labour MPs that because their leader Keir Starmer is so lacking in leadership that they have to look elsewhere for a potential new leader.

Blocking Andy Burnham's attempt to become an MP, and thereby be a threat, is probably the most decisive thing Starmer has done so far in his premiership. Will this be his defining legacy when he no longer pollutes Westminster?

Patricia East,
Guildford, Surrey

Time running out for weak and feeble Prime Minister

FIRST stupid Keir Starmer delays local elections, totally against democracy, then the coward blocks Andy Burnham from trying to be an MP. We have a very weak Prime Minister, he needs to go.

Andrew Tiffin,
Tiptree, Essex

Starmer should read up on law he loves so much

ACCORDING to President Trump, handing over the Chagos Islands to Mauritius would be an "act of great stupidity" and "total weakness", and pay £35billion for the privilege ("Humiliation as PM forced to pull the Chagos bill", January 24).

It would break a treaty between the UK and the US signed in 1966, whereby Britain has sovereignty on the islands. For a self-confessed devotee of international law, this is quite an oversight by Keir Starmer.

David Hardman,
Morley, Derbys

Trump has short memory or likes insulting US allies

IT IS becoming very clear that Donald Trump's advisers are failing him big time if they are not correcting or advising him on such serious matters as to where Britain stood with the US in Afghanistan – side by side ("What a bloody cheek!", January 24).

The only time Nato's Article 5 was invoked was in supporting America after the 9/11 terror attacks. Trump clearly can't get his facts right or is deliberately trying to enhance his political agenda.

Sadly Keir Starmer hasn't got the guts to robustly challenge Trump over this to the point of getting a full apology.

John Fox,
St Brelade, Jersey

LETTER OF THE DAY

POWER STRUGGLE: Keir Starmer and Andy Burnham

Keir terrified Labour could crash twice

WE'VE seen all sorts of reasons given why Labour refused Andy Burnham the opportunity to stand in the Gorton and Denton by-election, but it's likely they are frightened of losing both the seat and a mayoral election ("Labour war as Starmer blocks Burnham bid to be MP", January 26).

Andrew Gwynne won with a large majority but that was before the last 18 months of disastrous decisions. But while Burnham won a large share of the mayoral vote it only added up to 20% of the electorate.

It's the same reasoning for the cancellation of various local council elections in May – they are frightened of the losses given the dire polls and the total ineptitude of Starmer.

Barrie Warren,
Bury, Lancs

Britain wont take lecture from draft-dodger Donald

IS DONALD Trump insane? Trump's mega-rich father managed to blag his son a way out of being drafted to serve in Vietnam.

Trump has the audacity to insult all servicemen and women who served in the armed forces. He knows nothing.

Even an apology now from Trump would be insulting.

Kathleen Betts,
Doncaster, S Yorks

Wootton Bassett services evidence of our sacrifice

DONALD Trump has a very short memory and shows no respect for UK troops lost in Afghanistan. The US joined both First and Second World Wars when almost halfway fought, I would suggest that put them very much on the "back line".

How dare Trump say our troops did not fight on the front line in Afghanistan? You only have to see the funeral cars in Wootton Bassett to know our soldiers paid the ultimate price.

Trevor Dawn,
Ashurst Wood, W Sussex

President's front line slur will never be forgotten

I TOTALLY disagree with Richard Madeley about Trump, Europe and America ("Trump teaches us a history lesson", January 24).

Trump is a rude, abusive man who thinks the US is above all other countries.

What Trump said about Nato troops not being on the front line is disgusting. Britain has always played its part.

Christine Kinsella,
Brentwood, Essex

Steering clear of America while idiot's at the wheel

MANY years ago, pre Trump 1 and Trump 2, during a holiday centred around San Diego and during a conversation with an American gentleman, I was asked if I would like to live in the USA. My unequivocal answer was "Yes". Now however, that answer would have to be "No, not while this idiot is in charge".

Peter Smith,
Worthing, W Sussex

NHS cancer crisis caused by Blair & Co in 1990s

("BRITAIN needs better care for cancer patients", January 23). True, but not just mental health support. Anxiety is caused by endless waits for appointments at inaccessible hospitals miles from home, delays in starting treatment way beyond target times and general lack of coordination between different services due to poor management.

I have no faith we will see improvements under this government. Wes Streeting is far too busy distorting priorities and pitching to be prime minister, while blaming the Tories for the irreversible mess created by the last Labour Government. Inequalities have existed for 30 years, not 15.

Dr Peter Outen,
Brentwood Essex

We couldn't give two hoots about Beckham soap opera

ARE most people sick of the coverage of David Beckham and his family ("I'm backing Brooklyn over Brand Beckham", January 26)? When astronauts next land on the Moon, I fully expect him to be there to welcome them.

Peter Hattersley,
Wakefield, W Yorks

KIDS NOT READY TO START SCHOOL? I BLAME THE PARENTS

SO ONE in four children start primary school without being able to use the loo or feed themselves and 50% of parents don't think it's their job to train them to do so (Carole Malone, January 24).

Well I'm sorry, these parents have them so they are their responsibility at the end of the day and they are no one else's.

The people in power should refuse to take them at school, end of.

But just a thought, I wonder how many of these parents can use social media? Makes you think, perhaps enough said.

Annette Hale,
Aldridge, W Mids

TODAY: Tuesday January 27, 2026

ON THIS DAY

44 years ago (1982)
We revealed unemployment had "crashed through the three million barrier" for the first time under Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

But Employment Secretary Norman Tebbit claimed the Tories' economic policies were working and would lead to an improvement.

Elsewhere, more than 40,000 British Telecom jobs were at risk amid competition from foreign firms.

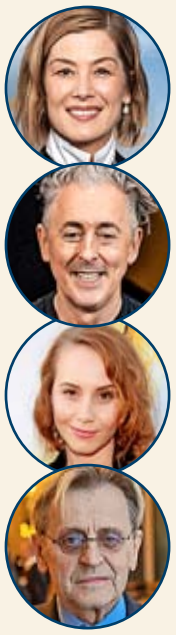
53 years ago (1973)
The Paris Peace Accords ended the Vietnam War, with Colonel William Nolde becoming the last American killed in combat.

In 1975 communist North Vietnam launched an offensive against the South, after which the two countries were reunited as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

30 years ago (1996)
Germany observed the first Holocaust Memorial Day to mark the genocide which resulted in the deaths of six million Jews and 11 million others by the Nazis.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day was inaugurated by the United Nations on January 27, 2005 to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps.

BIRTHDAYS



Actress **Rosamund Pike** is 47. She was friends with Chelsea Clinton at Oxford. The Good Wife star **Alan Cumming** is 61. He has his own fragrance. Hollywood star **Bridget Fonda** is 62. Her aunt is Jane Fonda. Ex-ballet dancer **Mikhail Baryshnikov** is 78. He defected from the Soviet Union.

TODAY'S GIGGLE

I wanted to buy a pair of camouflage pants but I couldn't find any.

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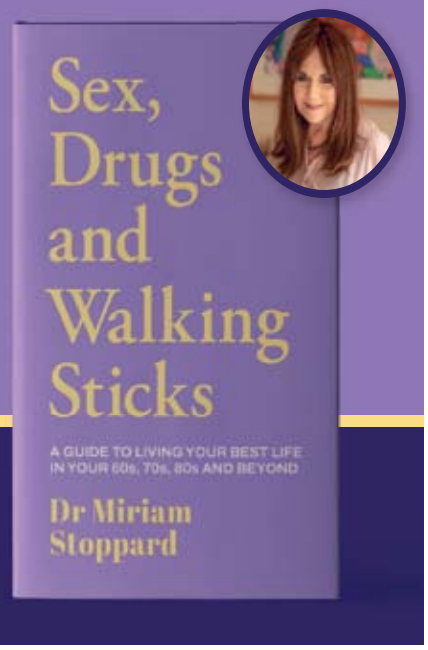

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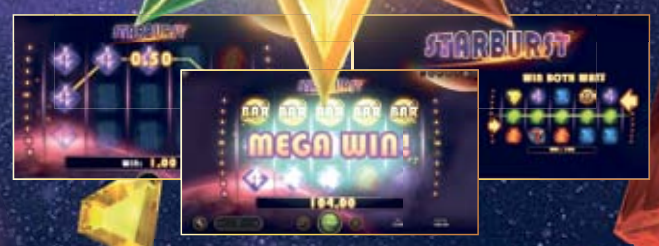

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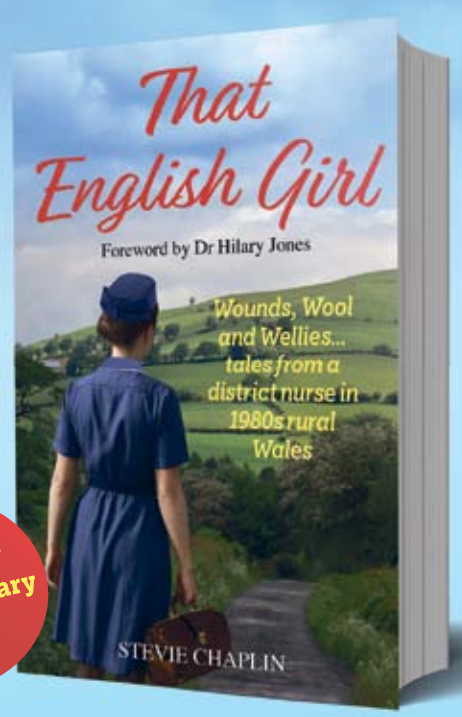
That English Girl
Foreword by Dr Hilary Jones
Wounds, Wool and Wellies... tales from a district nurse in 1980s rural Wales
STEVIE CHAPLIN

Foreword by ITV's Dr Hilary Jones

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Racing

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Rogue should be trusted to deliver

By **The Scout** (Melissa Jones)

ROGUE DE VEGA (8.00, Nap) is fancied to land a Wolverhampton hat-trick in division one of the Join The Midnite Movement Handicap.

The sprinter, trained by Antony Brittain, right, scored tidily at the Midlands venue the last twice and he has bagged the inside stall for his follow-up bid.

My selection remains fairly weighed after a 3lb rise and he has pacesetters Thank The Lord and Alafdhal to stalk into the straight.

A return to the same circuit and the reapplication of a visor could reinvigorate SLOWDOWNBARNEY (6.30, trb), an easy winner there with Hollie Doyle aboard in April 2025 and he is just 2lb higher now.

GRENADIER JED (2.02, nb) remains unexposed over jumps and takes aim at Chepstow's Albert Bartlett Triple Crown Series Handicap Hurdle.

The gelding loves the mud and was still going well when he exited at Plumpton in December.

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OLIVE'S HORROR FALL

Nicholls hit by suspected pelvic injury

By **Melissa Jones**

AMATEUR jockey Olive Nicholls was taken to hospital yesterday after she fell from her horse in a race at Hereford.

The daughter of 14-time champion jumps trainer Paul Nicholls, below, was riding Quel Destin when the gelding unshipped her in the JumpRite Open Hunters' Chase.

The 11-year-old gelding, a Grade One scorer in his juvenile hurdling days, had just lost the lead to Stattler when he landed steeply at the third-last obstacle.

Quel Destin, still trained by Nicholls senior, ran loose and fell at the next fence, bringing down the Josh Newman-ridden and trained Important Notice.

Clerk of the course Molly King confirmed that the horses had returned to the stables, as Nicholls was assisted by medics. The last race was delayed before going ahead in near-darkness at 4.41pm.

"Olive Nicholls was transported to Hereford Hospital by road ambulance," said King. "She was conscious and is being assessed for a pelvic injury."

❒ THE British Horseracing Authority has an all-chase card on standby for Sandown on Saturday, should the track fail a Thursday morning inspection.

Two Class Three handicaps, at distances of 1m7f and 2m7f, have been provisionally added to the schedule at the rain-hit venue.

Waterlogging has claimed Exeter's fixture tomorrow, while Leicester's hinges on an 8am inspection this morning, as clerks are braced for the impact of Storm Chandra.

❒ CHELTENHAM last night confirmed the hole that appeared on Saturday, causing controversy when the last race went ahead after a delay, was most likely a collapsed drain.

HUGE SCARE Olive Nicholls, on December winner Viroflay, fell from Quel Destin yesterday

THE SCOUT

12.45 Luna Grace
1.20 Le Beau Madrik
1.50 Spadestep
2.25 Le Beau Gosse
3.00 Twistthenightaway
3.35 The Big Breac
4.10 Kingofthegame

12.45 MARES' OPEN MAIDEN NH FLAT RACE (AWT)
£2,451 (Class 5) 2m 56yds (9 declared)

1 L3 **ARISTELLE (44)** J Moffatt 5 11-4 ..... L Norcei(10) 90
2 L **AUTUMN GETAWAY (227)** Lizzie Quinlan 5 11-4 ..... Sean Quinlan 13
3 **DANCING DIANA** M Walford 5 11-4 ..... T Midgley(3) –
4 7-12 **I C U IN MY DREAMS (42) (F)** D McCain 6 11-4 ..... B Hughes ★92
5 **LITTLE RUBY** M Walford 5 11-4 ..... J Hamilton –
6 **NOWHERENEARMILAN (T)** M Comley 5 11-4 ..... D Bass –
7 **ORESTINA** Paul Robson 5 11-4 ..... R Mania –
8 5 **PURE OCEAN (43) (T)** R Bandey 5 11-4 ..... H Bannister 86
9 33 ● **LUNA GRACE (59)** L Russell & M Scudamore 4 10-5 ..... Conner McCann(7) 84

TONGUE STRAP: No. 9 CHEEK PIECES: No. 1.

SP FORECAST: 7-4 I C U In My Dreams, 3 Luna Grace, 13-2 Little Ruby, 8 Nowherenearmilan, Pure Ocean, 14 Orestina, Dancing Diana, Aristelle, 50 Others.
2025: Amelia's Star 5-11-4, Brian Hughes 11-10 Fav (D Killahena & G McPherson), 9 ran.

1.20 VIRGIN BET A GOOD BET NOVICES' HURDLE
£5,446 (4) 2m 4f 62yds (10)

1 31-1 **BUDDAH CASTLE (53) (D)** P Neville 6 11-12 ..... B Hughes 107
2 122-21 **EAGLES REPRIEVE (70)** L Russell & M Scudamore 5 11-12 ..... Jack Power(5) 113
3 2-21 ● **LE BEAU MADRIK (59) (C) (T)** D Skelton 5 11-12 ..... T Durrell 117
4 4-447L **IVAN'S LEGACY (29)** S Corbett 5 11-5 ..... C Rabbitt(3) 80
5 7-45842 **LOULOU MADRIK (12) (F)** M Walford 5 11-5 ..... J Hamilton ★125
6 **NORDIC GIFT** R Menzies 7 11-5 ..... R Chapman –
7 6U-3 **RETURN TO FLORIDA (36)** W Coltherd 6 11-5 ..... Sean Quinlan –
8 56-75 **SPARKY TOM (74)** Paul Robson 6 11-5 ..... R Mania 98
9 9-U50 **THE FINAL BRIG (52)** M Walford 6 11-5 ..... T Midgley(3) 86
10 6-P6 **MOONLIGHT TRAIL (32)** Paul Robson 7 10-12 ..... C Bewley 97

TONGUE STRAP: No. 4.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Le Beau Madrik, 3 Eagles Reprieve, 4 Buddah Castle, 5 Loulou Madrik, 14 Nordic Gift, Return To Florida, 25 Sparky Tom, 50 Others.
2025: Jupiter Des Mottes 6-11-5, Patrick Wadge 7-2 (L Russell), 12 ran.

1.50 NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (GBB RACE)
£4,700 (4) 2m 75yds (5)

1 LL8-353 **PONY SOPRANO (38) (T)** D Skelton 7 12-0 ..... T Durrell 122
2 122-122 ● **SPADESTEP (45) (S)** L Russell & M Scudamore 7 11-13 ..... D R Fox ★123
3 211-274 **DOUBLE DIGITS (32)** A Hamilton 8 11-6 ..... D McMenamin 112
4 422225- **THE GRAFTER (278)** S England 7 11-2 ..... J England –
5 150-73P **KIDS SAY LASTGOJOE (74)** M Hammond 6 10-3.. C Bewley –

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 4 CHEEK PIECES: No. 2 HOOD: No. 5.

SP FORECAST: 4-5 Spadestep, 9-2 Pony Soprano, 6 Double Digits, 13-2 The Grafter, 10 Kids Say Lastgojoe.

2.25 GET RACEDAY READY HANDICAP HURDLE
£3,248 (5) 2m 7f 149yds (11)

1 2/06-PP5 **EIRE STREET (25)** Mrs J Stephen 9 12-0 ..... J Thompson(7) 95
2 45-L4LP **PARISH QUIZ (25)** R Menzies 6 11-10 ..... N Moscrop 94
3 1353/FU **FIVEAFTERFOUR (26)** L Russell & M Scudamore 8 11-8 .P W Wadge –
4 5-P58L4 ● **LE BEAU GOSSE (39)** O Greenall & J Guerriero 5 11-7 ..... Ben Smith(7) 86
5 3L-L8U5 **HALF TRACK (44)** N Alexander 10 11-7 ..... B Lynn ★103
6 46P-LL2 **DILLARCHIE (42) (D)** J E Foster 9 11-1 ..... T Midgley(3) 101
7 P-6P571 **KALO ATHENA (31) (D)** J Moffatt 7 11-1 ..... L Norcei(10) 100
8 L7/736-P **WAINWRIGHT (57)** N Richards 8 10-12 ..... C Bewley 94
9 64PLP8 **BLUE INDIGO (14)** Gary Rutherford 6 10-9 ..... E Austin(5) 81
10 0653-LP **ANNIES GOLD (32)** N Kent 7 10-8 ..... H Bannister 98
11 6L88P-3 **DARTMHOR (53)** C Grant 6 10-6 ..... D McMenamin 96

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 4 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 4, 6, 7.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 6, 1, 3, 5, 7.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Kalo Athena, 7-2 Dillarchie, 5 Fiveafterfour, 7 Wainwright, 8 Eire Street, 12 Half Track, 16 Dartmhor, 16 Le Beau Gosse, Parish Quiz, 25 Others.

3.00 HIGH GOSFORTH PARK MARES' HCAP HURDLE
£4,066 (4) 2m 4f 62yds (8)

1 042FP-1 **PITWOOD ROAD (44) (S)** N Richards 8 12-2 ..D McMenamin 106
2 1/2P-L **MARY STANFORD (67)** P Neville 7 11-11 ..... B Hughes 81
3 312P-42 **JUST CALL ME LUCY (62) (D)** M Walford 8 11-9 .J Hamilton ★115
4 3-556 ● **TWISTTHENIGHTAWAY (38) (T)** D Skelton 6 11-6 ..... T Durrell 105
5 20L3-6L **ROSE'S DART (78)** M & D Easterby 5 11-5 ..... P W Wadge 103
6 PP-0532 **LIZZIE LUNA (36) (D)** Ewan Whillans 6 11-3 ..... Craig Nichol 110
7 P/444-PP **OUR LAURA B (82) (C&D)** B Haslam 8 11-0 ..... K Brogan –
8 4P4-45L **IT'S MAISY (49) (D)** J Parkinson & S Smith 8 10-12 ..... Jack Power(5) 113

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 7.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 8, 7, 1.

SP FORECAST: 10-3 Pitwood Road, 7-2 Lizzie Luna, 4 Twistthenightaway, 5 Just Call Me Lucy, 8 It's Maisy, Mary Stanford, 14 Our Laura B, 16 Rose's Dart.

NEWCASTLE SSR

3.35 VIRGIN BET HANDICAP CHASE (GBB RACE)
£6,179 (3) 2m 7f 91yds (8)

1 0P3L-28 **YOUNG JACK (25)** C Grant 8 12-0 ..... D McMenamin 122
2 323/2P-P **MAROWN (93)** N Richards 12 11-12 ..... Sean Quinlan –
3 1123-5P **RATTLING ROAD (58) (C)** L Russell & M Scudamore 9 11-10 ..... Jack Power(5) 126
4 53-PL6P **THEFORMISMIGHTY (76) (T)** D Skelton 9 11-10 ..... T Durrell 81
5 L13-3U4 **IF NOT FOR DYLAN (52) (C&D)** L Russell & M Scudamore 11 11-9 D R Fox 119
6 117/72L **FENLAND TIGER (38) (C&D)** S England 10 11-7 ... J England 123
7 4P2P-LL **SHIGHNESS (58)** M Hammond 9 11-3 ..... B Hughes ★127
8 116-134 ● **THE BIG BREAC (32)** J Parkinson & S Smith 9 10-12 .C Bewley 123

BLINKERS: No. 7 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 4, 5 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 4.
SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 6, 5, 2, 3, 7, 8, 4, 1.

SP FORECAST: 9-4 The Big Breac, 4 If Not For Dylan, 5 Marown, 6 Fenland Tiger, Young Jack, 10 Theformismighty, Rattling Road, 50 Shighness.

4.10 COND JOCKEYS' NOVICES' LIMITED HCAP HRDL
£3,248 (5) 2m 4f 62yds (13)

1 34323/P- **QUICKASICAN (288)** J Bedi 9 11-12 ..... A Anderson –
2 4-24P26 **GONNINO (36)** Gary Rutherford 7 11-11 ..... C Rabbitt 98
3 32-54P8 **BURNING IT UP (25)** N Alexander 6 11-8 ..... D Hislop(10) 90
4 L46-333 **SNOW DRAGON (50)** L Russell & M Scudamore 5 11-8 .G Walkingshaw(10) 96
5 L/65-6L7 **RIGHTBACKATYOU (50)** W Coltherd 8 11-1 ..... T Midgley 91
6 L-4642 **VELVET VULCAN (25)** R M Smith 7 10-12 ..... Ben Smith(3) ★101
7 8-L6P24 **TIME WAS (15)** P Kirby 9 10-11 ..... J Williamson 97
8 L-6LLL **DIAMOND TRILOGY (82)** D Sayer 7 10-10 ..... W Maggs 91
9 46/43PP- ● **KINGOFTHEGAME (395)** M Todhunter 8 10-9 ... C Maggs –
10 8L6-L90 **STEEL SOLDIER (12)** J Norton 6 10-9 ..... Jack Power 88
11 725-L66 **BREADALBANE LASS (25)** R M Smith 6 10-5 ..... J Turner 96
12 5-4P854 **ROCK N ROLL CHAMP (44)** S Forster 8 10-5 ..... E Austin 94
13 75/45L-3 **PARISH STAR (26)** A Nicol 6 10-5 ..... J Thompson(3) –

TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 6, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 3, 11, 12 HOOD: Nos. 6, 13.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Velvet Vulcan, 5 Snow Dragon, 13-2 Time Was, 8 Parish Star, Rock N Roll Champ, 10 Gonnino, Kingofthegame, 12 Breadalbane Lass, 14 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Good to Soft. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Brian Hughes 17% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** R Menzies 11% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.20 Ivan's Legacy (tongue strap), 1.50 Spadestep (cheek pieces, tongue strap), 2.25 Le Beau Gosse (cheek pieces, tongue strap), 3.00 Our Laura B (tongue strap, wind surgery), 3.35 Rattling Road (wind surgery), 4.10 Burning It Up (cheek pieces), 12.45 Luna Grace (wind surgery). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.50 Spadestep(hcp ch), The Grafter(hcp hdl). 2.25 Wainwright(hcp ch). 3.00 Lizzie Luna(hcp hdl). 3.35 The Big Breac(hcp ch). 4.10 Snow Dragon(hcp hdl). **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Nowherenearmilan** (12.45) 348 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** No Qualifiers.

HEREFORD: Soft-heavy in places

2.00—DRACO MALFOY (T Bellamy, 2-11 fav) 1; Star Of Honour (14-1) 2; Handin Manypockets (5-1 2nd fav) 3. 3 ran. 2l, ½l. (K Bailey & M Nicholls). Tote: £1.19; exacta: £2.40. trifecta: £3.00. CSF: £3.10. Non-runners: Big Ticket, Ercall Fox.

2.30—FOLLOWCATO (K Woods, 5-2 2nd fav) 1; Hurricane Highway (7-2) 2; Epinephrine (9-1) 3. H'cap 4 ran. 24l, 48l. (B Pauling; 11-10 fav Ski Lodge). Tote: £3.50; exacta: £9.70. trifecta: £22.30. CSF: £10.70. Non-runner: Risk De Pluie.

3.00—MON CHAMPION (F Gingell, 9-2) 1; Hors Jeu (7-2) 2; Royal Mer (13-8 fav) 3. H'cap 5 ran. ns, 16l. (P Nicholls). Tote: £5.50; pl £2.80, £1.40. exacta: £14.20. trifecta: £61.40. CSF: £20.19.

3.30—UKANTANGO (L Stones, 5-1) 1; Nowmelad (5-2 jt fav) 2; Col Du Pre' (33-1) 3. H'cap 6 ran. 11¾l, 2¼l. (O Murphy; 5-2 jtfav Out Of Office). Tote: £6.00; pl £2.40, £1.70. exacta: £14.40. trifecta: £106.90. CSF: £17.97.

4.00—SNIPE (Mr Dominic Lewis, 9-2) 1; Stattler (9-4 fav) 2; A Jet Of Our Own (9-2) 3. 5 ran. ¾l, 69l. (D Skelton). Tote: £5.90; pl £2.60, £1.70. exacta: £16.90. trifecta: £60.30. CSF: £15.58. Non-runner: Camino Rocio.

4.30—PRINCESS KERI (B R Jones, 5-6 fav) 1; Gower Spirit (11-8 2nd fav) 2; Chosen Bae (10-1) 3. H'cap 4 ran. 17l, 13l. (E Williams). Tote: £1.84; exacta: £2.10. trifecta: £3.00. CSF: £2.38.

Placepot: £152.50
(Race 1) 1; (2) 1; (3) 2, 5; (4) 6, 4; (5) 5, 6; (6) 2. Quadpot: £24.10

PLUMPTON: Soft-good to soft in places

1.20—QUAY ITEM (N De Boinville, 11-10 fav) 1; Catch On Me (13-8 2nd fav) 2; Lola De Magny (22-1) 3. 8 ran. 6¼l, 23l. (N Henderson). Tote: £2.10; pl £1.20, £1.10, £2.50. exacta: £3.10. trifecta: £17.30. CSF: £3.45.

1.50—EDDIE MY EAGLE (P Armson, 4-1) 1; Looping D'arc (evens fav) 2; Land Of Punt (14-1) 3. 8 ran. 11¾l, 9l. (Dan Horsford). Tote: £5.00; pl £1.20, £1.10, £2.60. exacta: £11.40. trifecta: £63.70. CSF: £9.08. Non-runner: Reteti.

2.20—SEA THRIFT (R David, 2-1 2nd fav) 1; Superstylin (7-4 fav) 2; Sanitiser (15-2) 3. H'cap 5 ran. 3¼l, 2¼l. (Daisy Hitchins). Tote: £3.00; pl £1.40, £1.30. exacta: £5.10. trifecta: £16.40. CSF: £6.15.

2.50—GOOD TO BE ALIVE (S Bowen, 2-1 fav) 1; He's A Latchico (11-1) 2; Lucky Manifest (7-2) 3. H'cap 7 ran. ¾l, 2¼l. (O Murphy). Tote: £3.00; pl £1.60, £4.70. exacta: £20.70. trifecta: £109.30. CSF: £23.40.

3.20—TANKARDSTOWN DIVA (J Andrews, 7-1) 1; Either Or (5-2 2nd fav) 2; Keppel Queen (9-4 fav) 3. H'cap 5 ran. 2l, 2¼l. (T Ellis). Tote: £8.00; pl £2.50, £1.90. exacta: £22.70. trifecta: £108.60. CSF: £25.16.

3.50—LUMI PLUGIN (C Quinn, 11-8 fav) 1; Minella Blueway (9-2) 2; Georges Saint (5-2 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 4 ran. 11¼l, ¾l. (G & J Moore). Tote: £2.38; exacta: £6.30. trifecta: £12.70. CSF: £7.37.

4.20—OUR PAPA SMURF (C Quinn, 11-2) 1; Kill The Groove (25-1) 2; Master Dunraven (15-2) 3. H'cap 7 ran. nk, 2l. (G & J Moore; 13-8 fav Frank Stamper). Tote: £6.50; pl £2.20, £10.20. exacta: £93.20. trifecta: £438.40. CSF: £100.79.

Jackpot: £7,271.40
Placepot: £38.00
(Race 1) 6, 3, 7; (2) 4, 2, 6; (3) 5, 1; (4) 2, 7; (5) 2, 3; (6) 4;
Quadpot: £23.50

WOLVERHAMPTON: Standard

3.55—HE'S AN ANGEL (O Stammers, 3-1 jt fav) 1; Master Dandy (11-2) 2; East Tyrone (8-1) 3. H'cap 9 ran. hd, ¾l. (K Frost; 3-1 jtfav Court Of Session). Tote: £4.30; pl £1.70, £1.60, £1.50. exacta: £23.20. tricast: £121.95. trifecta: £152.50. CSF: £20.57. Non-runners: Optimistic, Rain Cap.

4.25—SISTERS IN THE SKY (F Marsh, 13-2) 1; Porfin (9-2) 2; Red Walls (16-1) 3. H'cap 10 ran. hd, ¾l. (G Harris; 11-4 fav Nordic Glory). Tote: £7.50; pl £2.20, £1.90, £4.70. exacta: £37.70. tricast: £454.13. trifecta: £432.00. CSF: £36.17.

5.00—GREY HORIZON (K O'Neill, 4-1 2nd fav) 1; King Of Chaos (11-2) 2; Faithful Dream (10-1) 2; H'cap 9 ran. 1l, dht. (S Dixon; 5-2 fav Watchdog). Tote: Grey Horizon £5.00; pl Grey Horizon £1.60, King Of Chaos £2.00, Faithful Dream £2.90. exacta: Grey Horizon, King Of Chaos £16.60, Grey Horizon, Faithful Dream £105.04, Grey Horizon, Faithful Dream, King Of Chaos £112.99. trifecta: Grey Horizon, King Of Chaos, Faithful Dream £75.00, Grey Horizon, Faithful Dream, King Of Chaos £81.50. CSF: Grey Horizon, King Of Chaos £13.56, Grey Horizon, Faithful Dream £22.35.

5.30—NALA'S DREAM (D Nolan, 8-1) 1; Corniche Girl (14-1) 2; Yachtsman (11-4 2nd fav) 3. H'cap 8 ran. 1¼l, ½l. (R Fahey; 5-2 fav Moretons). Tote: £10.20; pl £2.80, £2.70, £1.60. exacta: £91.00. tricast: £390.01. trifecta: £1498.60. CSF: £110.31.

6.00—CHANTELLE (L Morris, evens fav) 1; Get An Attitude (7-2) 2; Denver Doll (5-2 2nd fav) 3. 8 ran. 1¼l, 2¼l. (Sir M Prescott). Tote: £2.00; pl £1.10, £1.20, £1.50. exacta: £5.80. trifecta: £13.90. CSF: £5.36.

6.30—HARBOUR VISION (K O'Neill, 20-1) 1; Enpassant (9-2) 2; Lessay (5-1) 3. H'cap 11 ran. 2l, ½l. (S Dixon; 7-2 fav Yehudi). Tote: £21.00; pl £5.00, £1.80, £1.80. exacta: £154.70. tricast: £540.34. trifecta: £1711.50. CSF: £108.63. Non-runner: Landlordtothestars.

7.00—EUPATOR (S M Levey, 11-8 fav) 1; Oman (8-1) 2; Monty Beau (13-2) 3. H'cap 10 ran. 3½l, ¾l. (R Hannon). Tote: £2.38; pl £1.20, £2.10, £1.90. exacta: £17.60. tricast: £57.89. trifecta: £48.30. CSF: £13.84.

7.30—PENELOPE VALENTINE (L Morris, 11-1) 1; Top Of The Class (12-1) 2; Donna Nook (9-2) 3. H'cap 6 ran. 3½l, nk. (James Owen; 13-8 fav Welljudged). Tote: £12.00; pl £4.80, £5.00. exacta: £68.90. trifecta: £355.60. CSF: £119.97.

8.00—KNIGHT OF MAGIC (L Morris, 6-5 fav) 1; Starfighter (11-2 2nd fav) 2; Desiderata (11-1) 3. 10 ran. hd, 3l. (James Owen). Tote: £2.20; pl £1.10, £1.90, £2.90. exacta: £10.30. trifecta: £70.70. CSF: £8.15. Non-runners: Nakatomi, Rosso Levanto.

Placepot: £133.00
(Race 1) 2, 1, 6; (2) 10, 5, 9; (3) 3, 9, ; (4) 5, 7, 4; (5) 2, 7, 5; (6) 10, 6, 3;
Quadpot: £17.90

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AND PRICES

1.00 NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE
£3,248 (CI 5) 2m 3f 100yds (16 declared)

1	46-L341	**LUWDVIG (8) (D)** N King 7 12-4(7ex)	J Quinlan	99
2	33-1886	● **MONSIEUR JACO (41)** N Mulholland 6 12-0	C O'Farrell	87
3	425-596	**GOOD FOR YOU (32)** Mrs J Williams 5 12-0	C Gethings	93
4	417P82	**GOWER SPIRIT (15)** M Sheppard 6 12-0	S Sheppard	101
5	L25-237	**HIGHBURY HILL (49)** N Hawke 5 11-12	B Carver	99
6	P5L2-33	**BOSTON JOE (79)** R Curtis 10 11-11	B R Jones	102
7	22/2L0-6	**OCEAN WALZ (223)** Mrs R Gasson 6 11-6	B Poste	80
8	L/L473-4	**DESSIE HAZE (266)** P C Dando 8 11-5	C Ring	98
9	423-L5L	**DON'T TELL ROSIE (27)** J Scott 6 11-4	L Williams	101
10	23323B	**LOCKED DOWN LAD (18)** J Tickle 6 11-3	Taylor Fisher	99
11	4/247-14	**CROSSBEAU (50) (C&D)** T Vaughan 7 11-3	Mr E Vaughan(7)	99
12	44/3-426	**OUT OF FOCUS (19)** E Williams 8 11-2	Isabel Williams	99
13	076	**REST IS THE BEST (19)** H Dickin 5 10-9	J Best	83
14	5-ULP8P	**GETAWAY SAM (15)** M Sheppard 6 10-6	R Patrick	86
15	L58-467	**SACCARY (27)** D Pipe 7 10-4	J Tudor	89
16	78-13LL	**ATLANTIC POWER (32)** Mrs R Ford 6 10-2	H Kimber ★104	

BLINKERS: No. 3 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6 CHEEK PIECES: No. 12 HOOD: No. 2.

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 6, 4, 1.

SP FORECAST: 3 Luwdvig, 7 Atlantic Power, Gower Spirit, 8 Boston Joe, Crossbeau, Locked Down Lad, 10 Monsieur Jaco, 12 Good For You, 14 Others.

1.30 FITZDARES JUVENILE HURDLE 4YO
£5,446 (4) 2m 16yds (7)

1	4	**BERKSHIRE SMUDGE (46)** R Curtis 11-0	S Bowen	96
2	22U	**BRAVE GUEST (10)** Miss S West 11-0	M Goldstein	120
3	3	**JEDHI KNIGHT (31)** Harry Derham 11-0	Paul O'Brien	103
4	2	● **MISTERDOC (101) (S)** D Skelton 11-0	H Skelton	–
5	123	**ONLY ONE BLUE (52)** M Comley 11-0	F Mitchell(3)	112
6	3	**SENATOR (17)** J Snowden 11-0	G Sheehan	119
7	1-6	**THEWOODCORNER (53)** N Henderson 11-0	J Bowen ★121	

BLINKERS: No. 3 CHEEK PIECES: No. 5.

SP FORECAST: 9-4 Senator, 11-4 Misterdoc, 5 Only One Blue, 11-2 Brave Guest, 7 Thewoodcorner, 12 Jedhi Knight, 20 Berkshire Smudge.

2.02 ALBERT BARTLETT HANDICAP HURDLE
£5,651 (3) 2m 3f 100yds (12)

1	4PL052	**WEST TO THE BRIDGE (41) (C&D)** D Skelton 13 12-0	H Skelton ★124	
2	9L8-L05	**PYRAMID PLACE (27) (C&D)** H Dickin 9 11-12	Miss M Bevan(7)	116
3	P3/U7P-2	**BINGOO (30)** R L Llewellyn 10 11-11	Charlie Price	118
4	337-117	**FRENCH EMPEROR (46)** Nicky Martin 6 11-11	J Bowen	121
5	1-11143	**EL CAPITAINE (32)** K Woollacott 8 11-11	Mr J Newman(5)	123
6	13P-575	**CASTELFORT (29) (C)** Mrs J Williams 6 11-11	C Gethings	120
7	14-641F	**HIGH TEA (41) (C&D)** K Bailey & M Nicholls 7 11-10	T Bellamy	118
8	324-529	**WALKADINA (39)** D Pipe 7 11-9	J Tudor	121
9	7511-1F	● **GRENADIER JED (57) (D)** R Walford 6 11-8	H Kimber	113
10	34-2837	**TORRENT (29)** N Hawke 5 11-7	J M Davies	120
11	11-L95L	**BOYLES HILL (18) (C&D)** E Williams 7 11-0	Isabel Williams	121
12	643F57	**SLIM MARVEL (84) (D)** R Curtis 8 10-9	S Bowen	122

CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 2 HOOD: No. 2.

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 3, 11, 6, 5, 4, 9, 7, 2, 10, 1.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Grenadier Jed, 10-3 El Capitaine, 9-2 French Emperor, 6 High Tea, 10 West To The Bridge, 12 Bingoo, 14 Castelfort, Walkadina, 25 Others.

CHEPSTOW SKYSPORTSRACING

THE SCOUT

1.00 Monsieur Jaco	3.12 Clondaw Park
1.30 Misterdoc	3.47 Fat Faced Columbo
2.02 GRENADIER JED (nb)	4.22 Justalargewhisky
2.37 Juby Ball	

2.37 KINGSBRIDGE MORTGAGE NOVICES' CHASE
£8,169 (3) 2m 16yds (5)

1	12/11-1F	● **JUBY BALL (19) (D)** E Williams 7 11-10	J Bowen	128
2	342L-1P	**PALACIO (60) (C&D)** S Thomas 8 11-10	D Johnston	134
3	2-3F25P	**DJ PETE (10)** S-J Davies 8 11-4	J Best	110
4	LP9-434	**STORMING NELSON (18)** Mrs S Gardner 7 11-4	Lucy Gardner	–
5	1620-52	**STENCIL (39)** N George & A Zetterholm (FR) 5 11-0	J J Burke ★148	

TONGUE STRAP: No. 2 CHEEK PIECES: No. 3 HOOD: No. 5.

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1, 2, 5, 4.

SP FORECAST: 8-15 Stencil, 7-2 Juby Ball, 9-2 Palacio, 33 Dj Pete, Storming Nelson.

3.12 TAFFY JENKINS MARES' NOVICES' HURDLE
£5,446 (4) 2m 16yds (11)

1	1210-22	**CHARISMA CAT (32)** A King 6 11-2	T Bellamy ★138	
2	1-U	● **CLONDAW PARK (59) (F)** Harry Derham 5 11-2	Paul O'Brien	–
3	2/3-P3	**CUE JUMP (44)** K Woollacott 6 11-2	B J Powell	–
4	2-684	**DARING TO DREAM (15)** H Dickin 5 11-2	J Best	97
5	7PP/PL-	**DON'T CHEDDAR TEAR (445)** G Howell 7 11-2	Tabitha Worsley(3)	–
6	P-	**ISSADORA (325)** P C Dando 7 11-2	C Ring	–
7	14L-8	**KAPABILITY (82)** A Honeyball 6 11-2	R Dingle	99
8	68-6	**KARLITA DESBOIS (77)** Mrs M Rowley 6 11-2	C Deutsch	74
9	74	**MAN MAID (19)** H Dickin 5 11-2	Miss M Bevan(7)	89
10	123	**TRINITY STREET (48)** H Daly 5 11-2	S Twiston-Davies	103
11	64	**MILADY DU BREUIL (58)** Christian Williams 4 10-3	J Tudor	95

TONGUE STRAP: No. 7 HOOD: No. 4.

SP FORECAST: 4-6 Charisma Cat, 2 Clondaw Park, 8 Trinity Street, 20 Kapability, 25 Milady Du Breuil, 33 Cue Jump, Daring To Dream, 66 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Soft. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Ben Jones 21% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** E Williams 10% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 1.00 Out Of Focus (cheek pieces), Monsieur Jaco (hood), 2.02 Pyramid Place (cheek pieces, hood), 2.37 Dj Pete (cheek pieces), 3.12 Kapability (tongue strap), 3.47 Dangerous Touch (cheek pieces), 4.22 Justalargewhisky (tongue strap). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 1.00 Boston Joe(hcp ch), Crossbeau(hcp hdl), Locked Down Lad(hcp hdl). 2.02 French Emperor(hcp hdl), Grenadier Jed(hcp hdl), High Tea(hcp hdl). 2.37 Juby Ball(hcp ch), Storming Nelson(hcp hdl). 3.12 Charisma Cat, Trinity Street. 3.47 Dangerous Touch(hcp ch), The Big Reveal(hcp ch). **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Stencil** (2.37) France; **Ali Star Bert** (3.47) 160 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 1.30 **Misterdoc** from M Seror to D Skelton. 2.02 **Slim Marvel** from A Slattery in Ireland to R Curtis. 3.12 **Cue Jump** from J Newman to K Woollacott.

3.47 HANDICAP CHASE (GBB RACE)
£4,700 (4) 2m 7f 136yds (17)

1	2UU42-L	**SUPERVISOR (52) (D)** V Williams 12 12-2	C Deutsch	108
2	6P2L-74	**BELLS OF PETERBORO (49) (C&D)** T Vaughan 11 12-2	Mr E Vaughan(7) ★118	
3	5482/3F	**GENIETOILE (27)** R Curtis 8 12-1	T McCain-Mitchell(5)	110
4	23123/P-	**BALI BODY (417) (D)** Dr R Newland & J Insole 11 12-0	C Hammond	–
5	2P3LF-4	**PHANTOM GETAWAY (79)** K Bailey & M Nicholls 9 11-11	T Bellamy	109
6	413-453	**DANGEROUS TOUCH (25)** O Murphy 7 11-11	S Bowen	110
7	LLLLLP	**THE JAM MAN (48) (D)** R Potter 13 11-10	S Twiston-Davies	–
8	L4411P	**ALI STAR BERT (8) (C,D)** S A Harris 10 11-9	J Quinlan	111
9	1/454-83	**STAR OF DIAMONDS (47) (F)** E Lavelle 7 11-6	B R Jones	100
10	1366-47	**THE GREY MAN (12)** H Dickin 7 11-5	J Bowen	92
11	U33/6LL	**BOLSOVER BILL (12)** Harry Derham 9 11-4	Miss Victoria Malzard(5)	83
12	21-033P	**THE MAGUS (15)** E Williams 6 11-4	C Ring	114
13	31-P4P	**THE MOONLIGHT MAN (19)** J Tickle 7 11-3	Taylor Fisher	–
14	P243-21	● **FAT FACED COLUMBO (28)** R Mitford-Slade 6 11-2	J Best	115
15	365/L	**ROI LION (16)** R Walford 8 10-11	H Kimber	–
16	1261-P5	**JOHN W CREASY (47)** C Honour 8 10-8	B Carver	110
17	45L-124	**THE BIG REVEAL (42) (D)** G Harris 8 10-2	H Reed	114

BLINKERS: No. 11 VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 3, 5, 11 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 6, 17.

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 8, 4, 2, 11, 6, 16, 5, 9, 1, 10, 7.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Fat Faced Columbo, 11-2 Ali Star Bert, 7 Genietoile, 8 Phantom Getaway, 10 Dangerous Touch, 12 Bells Of Peterboro, The Big Reveal, 14 Others.

4.22 FITZDARES BUMPER NH FLAT RACE
£3,921 (4) 2m 16yds (11)

1	10	**BARROW HILL LAD (39) (D)** Ben Clarke 5 11-9	T McCain-Mitchell(5)	106
2	3	**BIG JOHN OLLIE (91)** D Skelton 5 11-2	Harry Atkins(7) ★109	
3		● **JUSTALARGEWHISKY** S Thomas 6 11-2	D Johnston	–
4	4	**KELTYPE (52)** R Curtis 5 11-2	F Gordon	107
5	9	**MR WINTER (53)** C Honour 5 11-2	Miss M Bevan(7)	79
6		**NEZ VERT** V Williams 6 11-2	Miss L M Turner(5)	–
7		**THEPASSINGCYCLONE** D F Davis 6 11-2	Isabelle Ryder(5)	–
8		**THE QUANT** E Williams 5 11-2	Mr J King(3)	–
9	1	**WESTBROOKE BOY (66) (D)** S Edmunds 4 10-10	Murray Dodd(7)	93
10	L	**JUBILEE JACK (68)** H Dickin 4 10-3	Jude Fernandes(7)	66
11	0	**GRACIOUSANDPLENTY (41)** Joe Ponting 4 10-2	P Hanlon(5)	59

TONGUE STRAP: No. 3.

SOFT/HEAVY WINNERS: Nos. 1.

SP FORECAST: 11-4 Big John Ollie, 7-2 Justalargewhisky, 4 Westbrooke Boy, 5 Keltype, 6 Barrow Hill Lad, 12 Thepassingcyclone, 14 The Quant, 20 Others.

GOSSIP FROM THE GALLOPS

Midlands: MISTERDOC (1.30 Chepstow)
Scotland: SPADESTEP (1.50 Newcastle)
North: PITWOOD ROAD (3.00 Newcastle)
Lambourn: HORWICH (5.30 Wolverhampton)

THE SCOUT

4.28 Bungle Bay	7.00 Warrior Queen
5.00 Bad Habits	7.30 Rajinoora
5.30 Horwich	8.00 ROGUE DE VEGA (nap)
6.00 Midnight Call	8.30 Buraback
6.30 SLOWDOWNBARNEY	

4.28 BETMGM HANDICAP (DIV 1)
£4,711 (Class 6) 7f 36yds (9 declared)

1	(9)	9533-21	**HOW'S THE GUVNOR (7)** J Candlish 5 9-13(5ex)	G Wood	62
2	(1)	576717-	● **BUNGLE BAY (61) (C&D)** H Evans 7 9-9	J Leavy	62
3	(6)	43L72-8	**MYTHICAL ISLE (23)** P Morris 4 9-8	P Bradley ★66	
4	(8)	23141-3	**HOMME DE FER (13) (C&D)** A Carroll 5 9-8	W Carson	64
5	(3)	47605-4	**FISTRAL BEACH (24) (C&D)** J Mackie 5 9-5	Jack Doughty	61
6	(2)	621397-	**BUTTERCROSS FLYER (36) (D)** S Dixon 5 9-4	K O'Neill	65
7	(7)	78-0434	**TOOTSIE (5)** P McEntee 4 9-1	B Loughnane	60
8	(5)	237464-	**EYE OF THE WATER (50) (C&D)** R Harris 10 9-0	R Hornby	62
9	(4)	8008/87	**MUSAYTIR (4)** Joe Ponting 8 9-0	N Currie	48

VISOR: No. 7 TONGUE STRAP: No. 7 CHEEK PIECES: No. 8 HOOD: No. 1.

SP FORECAST: 9-4 How's The Guvnor, 11-4 Homme De Fer, 6 Fistral Beach, 7 Bungle Bay, 10 Eye Of The Water, 12 Mythical Isle, Buttercross Flyer, 14 Others.

5.00 BETMGM HANDICAP (DIV 2)
£4,711 (6) 7f 36yds (8)

1	(3)	1586-58	**RIVER WHARFE (15) (C&D)** A Carroll 8 9-9	Myla Coppins(7)	64
2	(8)	L61648-	**KOJI (140) (C&D,F)** N Wilson 5 9-8	S B Kirrane ★66	
3	(5)	5L84-25	**COURT OF SESSION (14)** P McEntee 7 9-8	B Loughnane	64
4	(1)	3351-44	● **BAD HABITS (14) (C&D)** R Carr 4 9-7	JP Sullivan	65
5	(6)	923242-	**BANDELLO (85)** J Candlish 5 9-3	G Wood	63
6	(7)	L89-0	**PAPS OF JURA (15)** S Thomas 5 9-1	C Bishop	60
7	(2)	8L566-5	**ROGUE THUNDER (4) (C,D)** P Morris 6 9-0	R Kavanagh(5)	60
8	(4)	8545-56	**OLDBURY LAD (4)** G Harris 4 9-0	S Donohoe	56

VISOR: No. 3 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 HOOD: Nos. 5, 7.

SP FORECAST: 15-8 Bandello, 7-2 Bad Habits, 6 Court Of Session, River Wharfe, 8 Koji, 12 Rogue Thunder, 14 Oldbury Lad, 16 Paps Of Jura.

5.30 BETMGM.CO.UK NOVICE STAKES 3YO
£5,400 (4) 7f 36yds (5)

1	(3)	1-	● **HORWICH (43) (C&D,S)** C Cox 9-9	R Hornby ★72	
2	(1)	46-	**BIG MOONRISE (31)** P Evans 9-4	S M Levey	49
3	(5)		**KOKUSHOKU** S & E Crisford 9-4	H Davies	–
4	(4)	L	**LUCKY SEVENS (8)** James Owen 9-4	P Cosgrave	15
5	(2)	5-7	**QUICK QUASAR (6)** A Watson 9-4	Doubtful	69

HOOD: No. 1.

SP FORECAST: 13-20 Horwich, 13-8 Kokushoku, 20 Big Moonrise, 25 Lucky Sevens.

WOLVERHAMPTON SSR

6.00 MIDNITE CLASSIFIED STAKES
£3,140 (6) 5f 21yds (9)

1	(3)	331-131	● **MIDNIGHT CALL (4) (C&D)** A Carroll 5 10-0	T Cameron(7)	53
2	(4)	L90806-	**CAUSIN A COMMOTION (68) (C&D)** N Wilson 4 9-9	S B Kirrane	46
3	(7)	564-375	**JUNO STAR (7) (D,F)** P McBride 4 9-9	B Loughnane ★56	
4	(8)	L/LL-L	**LA LUNITA (25)** D Shaw 4 9-9	L Edmunds	13
5	(2)	L2L85-8	**MY GENGHIS (19) (C&D)** A Carroll 7 9-9	W Carson	53
6	(1)	16L845-	**MY TURN NOW (89) (C&D)** M Attwater 6 9-9	S M Levey	49
7	(6)	586/89L-	**STONEACRE GIRL (133)** S Dixon 5 9-9	K O'Neill	33
8	(9)	6862-63	**SULTAN OF OJ (11)** T Faulkner 4 9-9	L Morris	54
9	(5)	LL86-27	**THE DEFIANT (6) (C&D)** L Dace 10 9-9	J Dace(5)	53

BLINKERS: No. 3 VISOR: Nos. 6, 8 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 8, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 2, 5, 9.

SP FORECAST: 7-4 Midnight Call, 4 The Defiant, Sultan Of Oj, 5 Juno Star, 8 My Genghis, 16 Causin A Commotion, My Turn Now, 33 Stoneacre Girl, 100 La Lunita.

6.30 BET BUILDERS AT MIDNITE HANDICAP
£3,140 (6) 1m 5f 219yds (7)

1	(6)	3228-31	**PRINCE QUATTRO (5) (D)** James Owen 7 10-4(4ex)	Mason Paetel(5)	66
2	(5)	4901/35-	**CHICAGO STORM (J32)** Daisy Hitchins 7 9-13	J Nicholls(5)	67
3	(2)	32431-6	**DAARIS (24) (C&D)** K Frost 7 9-12	J Mitchell ★68	
4	(4)	164/2L5-	**EAGLE ONE (91) (C,D)** N & W Twiston-Davies 8 9-10	R Hornby	66
5	(1)	12089L-	● **SLOWDOWNBARNEY (46) (C&D)** J McConnell (IRE) 5 9-10	H Doyle	62
6	(3)	2155-34	**BILLY BATHGATE (4) (C,D) (T)** Ewan Whillans 10 9-6	R Scott	66
7	(7)	L5317-1	**HIMSELF (7) (D,F)** P Kirby 4 8-13(5ex)	A Brookes(3)	65

BLINKERS: No. 3 VISOR: No. 5 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 4, 5 CHEEK PIECES: No. 4.

SP FORECAST: 11-8 Himself, 4 Prince Quattro, 5 Billy Bathgate, 7 Eagle One, 10 Slowdownbarney, 12 Chicago Storm, 14 Daaris.

7.00 BETMGM HANDICAP 3YO
£3,140 (6) 6f 20yds (9)

1	(6)	974L-3	● **WARRIOR QUEEN (6)** James Horton 9-9	G Wood	56
2	(9)	6LL65-6	**HE BANGS THE DRUMS (13) (F)** A Watson 9-5	Harry Vigors(7)	53
3	(7)	4L-7	**CURATED (25)** Ollie Sangster 9-5	N Currie	57
4	(4)	L566-L	**LADY BIRGMA (13)** M Usher 9-4	G Bass ★62	
5	(5)	5L425-8	**FORCEFUL LADY (20)** A Carroll 9-4	W Carson	59
6	(2)	870747-	**LUNA BEAUX (55)** A Wintle 9-3	F Marsh	61
7	(3)	58547-3	**OH SO PERFECT (10)** M Appleby 9-3	A Rawlinson	55
8	(8)	9082-	**CALABRIAN SOLDATO (40)** Lemos Souza 9-0	L Edmunds	57
9	(1)	876-6	**MON PETIT FRERE (10)** J Parr 9-0	D Keenan	47

BLINKERS: Nos. 2, 3 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 2, 9 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 8.

SP FORECAST: 2 Calabrian Soldato, 5-2 Oh So Perfect, 8 Curated, Luna Beaux, 10 Mon Petit Frere, He Bangs The Drums, 12 Warrior Queen, 14 Others.

TRACK FACTS: GOING: Standard. Left Handed. **TOP TRACK JOCKEY (2021-26):** Luke Morris 12% Strike rate. **TOP TRACK TRAINER (2021-26):** A Carroll 9% Strike rate. **FIRST TIME:** 7.00 Curated (blinkers), He Bangs The Drums (tongue strap), 8.00 Spendmore Lane (eye shields), Nordic Games (cheek pieces, tongue strap). **BEATEN FAVOURITES:** 4.28 Homme De Fer(hcp). 7.30 Rajinoora(hcp). 8.00 Son Of Astar(hcp). **DRAW:** Little effect. **LONGEST TRAVELLER: Slowdownbarney** (6.30) & **Phil's Dream** (8.00) Ireland; **Billy Bathgate** (6.30) 230 miles. **STABLE SWITCH:** 5.00 **Koji** from S Spencer to N Wilson. 7.00 **Luna Beaux** from Miss K McGivern in Ireland to A Wintle.

7.30 BETMGM FILLIES' HANDICAP
£3,716 (5) 1m 1f 104yds (6)

1	(5)	8741 2-4	● **RAJINOORA (20)** M Bell 4 9-11	H Crouch	76
2	(2)	637-	**ROSE COTTON (113)** Tom Clover 4 9-10	J Mitchell	71
3	(6)	6072L-L	**GHAIYYATH PARK (13)** A Wintle 4 9-4	F Marsh	76
4	(4)	86L9-	**ABILA (62)** I Williams 4 9-3	R Kavanagh(5)	58
5	(3)	53-4111	**PINK SOCKS (10)** I Williams 7 9-2	P Bradley ★78	
6	(1)	5237-4	**LEESON STREET (13)** G Boughey 4 9-1	B Loughnane	77

BLINKERS: No. 6 TONGUE STRAP: No. 6.

SP FORECAST: 4-5 Pink Socks, 5-2 Rajinoora, 7 Rose Cotton, 8 Leeson Street, 25 Ghaiyyath Park, 50 Abila.

8.00 THE MIDNITE MOVEMENT HCAP (DIV 1)
£3,140 (6) 5f 21yds (8)

1	(2)	8142 5-3	**SON OF ASTAR (6) (D)** A Carroll 4 9-9	Jack Doughty	69
2	(5)	1211L-5	**ALAFDHAL (13) (C&D)** P McEntee 8 9-9	B Loughnane	68
3	(7)	L0632-8	**THANK THE LORD (5) (D) (T)** Mr W G Harrison 7 9-7	J Gormley	67
4	(8)	254676-	**SPENDMORE LANE (36)** D Loughnane 4 9-6	F Marsh	70
5	(1)	7696-11	● **ROGUE DE VEGA (11) (C&D,F)** A Brittain 6 9-5	C Hardie ★71	
6	(3)	2LL8L7-	**NORDIC GAMES (62) (D)** N Wilson 4 9-3	H Russell	61
7	(6)	1L793-3	**SOME NIGHTMARE (11) (C,D)** J G O'Shea 9 9-3	W Carson	68
8	(4)	07L0/L-0	**PHIL'S DREAM (4) (D)** J McConnell (IRE) 6 8-9	H Doyle	46

BLINKERS: Nos. 1, 3 VISOR: Nos. 2, 8 TONGUE STRAP: Nos. 6, 8 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 6, 7 EYE COVERS: No. 4 HOOD: No. 5.

SP FORECAST: 13-8 Rogue De Vega, 9-4 Son Of Astar, 9-2 Some Nightmare, 10 Alafdhal, 14 Thank The Lord, Spendmore Lane, 25 Phil's Dream, 33 Nordic Games.

8.30 THE MIDNITE MOVEMENT HCAP (DIV 2)
£3,140 (6) 5f 21yds (8)

1	(1)	3144-13	**STREET LIFE (4) (C&D)** P Morris 9 9-10(4ex)	E Tindall(7)	65
2	(8)	48L550-	**MINI MAGNA (46) (D,F)** A Brittain 5 9-9	C Hardie	68
3	(7)	48522-7	**AMERJEET (8) (D)** M Herrington 4 9-8	B Loughnane	68
4	(3)	4384-84	● **BURABACK (12) (C&D)** D Shaw 7 9-6	L Edmunds ★70	
5	(2)	32261-3	**SHALAA ASKER (7) (D)** C Wallis 8 9-6	R Hornby	69
6	(4)	L64-651	**FOREST GUNNER (13) (D)** P Evans 5 9-4	S M Levey	65
7	(6)	62526-6	**SIR BENEDICT (11) (D)** T Culhane & S Barclay 8 9-2	S Donohoe	67
8	(5)	L78-736	**GLOBAL EFFORT (12) (C&D)** P McEntee 6 8-11	Grace McEntee	65

VISOR: No. 8 TONGUE STRAP: No. 5 CHEEK PIECES: Nos. 1, 5.

SP FORECAST: 5-2 Street Life, 3 Forest Gunner, 4 Shalaa Asker, 8 Buraback, 10 Sir Benedict, Amerjeet, 12 Mini Magna, 16 Global Effort.

VITAL STATISTICS

IN-FORM TRAINERS (last 10 days) H Evans 80% (1 wins and 3 places from 5 runners), M Comley 75% (1/2/4), G Boughey 67% (3/3/9), P McEntee 60% (2/1/5), Harry Derham 57% (2/2/7), O Murphy 52% (12/13/48), E Lavelle 50% (5/1/12), J Scott 50% (2/0/4).
IN-FORM JOCKEYS David Bass 60% (3 wins and 3 places from 10 runners), Sean Levey 53% (4/6/19), Billy Loughnane 50% (8/13/42), Brendan Powell 50% (3/6/18), Brian Hughes 50% (7/8/30), Jack Mitchell 50% (2/1/6), James Bowen 50% (2/12/28), Paddy Bradley 50% (3/4/14), Stan Sheppard 50% (1/5/12), Stevie Donohoe 50% (1/2/6), Toby McCain-Mitchell 50% (1/7/16),

C - Chepstow
N - Newcastle
W - Wolverhampton

Abila	W	7.30
Alafdhal	W	8.00
Ali Star Bert	C	3.47
Amerjeet	W	8.30
Annies Gold	N	2.25
Aristelle	N	12.45
Atlantic Power	C	1.00
Autumn Getaway	N	12.45
Bad Habits	W	5.00
Bali Body	C	3.47
Bandello	W	5.00
Barrow Hill Lad	C	4.22
Bells Of Peterboro	C	3.47
Berkshire Smudge	C	1.30
Big John Ollie	C	4.22
Big Moonrise	W	5.30
Billy Bathgate	W	6.30
Bingoo	C	2.02
Blue Indigo	N	2.25
Bolsover Bill	C	3.47
Boston Joe	C	1.00
Boyles Hill	C	2.02
Brave Guest	C	1.30
Breadalbane Lass	N	4.10
Buddah Castle	N	1.20
Bungle Bay	W	4.28
Buraback	W	8.30
Burning It Up	N	4.10
Buttercross Flyer	W	4.28
Calabrian Soldato	W	7.00
Castelfort	C	2.02
Causin A Commotion	W	6.00
Charisma Cat	C	3.12
Chicago Storm	W	6.30
Clondaw Park	C	3.12
Court Of Session	W	5.00
Crossbeau	C	1.00
Cue Jump	C	3.12
Curated	W	7.00
Daaris	W	6.30
Dancing Diana	N	12.45
Dangerous Touch	C	3.47
Daring To Dream	C	3.12
Dartmhor	N	2.25
Dessie Haze	C	1.00
Diamond Trilogy	N	4.10
Dillarchie	N	2.25
Dj Pete	C	2.37
Don't Cheddar Tear	C	3.12
Don't Tell Rosie	C	1.00
Double Digits	N	1.50
Eagle One	W	6.30
Eagles Reprieve	N	1.20
Eire Street	N	2.25
El Capitaine	C	2.02
Eye Of The Water	W	4.28
Fat Faced Columbo	C	3.47
Fenland Tiger	N	3.35
Fistral Beach	W	4.28
Fiveafterfour	N	2.25
Forceful Lady	W	7.00
Forest Gunner	W	8.30
French Emperor	C	2.02
Genietoile	C	3.47
Getaway Sam	C	1.00
Ghaiyyath Park	W	7.30
Global Effort	W	8.30
Gonnino	N	4.10
Good For You	C	1.00
Gower Spirit	C	1.00
Graciousandplenty	C	4.22
Grenadier Jed	C	2.02
Half Track	N	2.25
He Bangs The Drums	W	7.00
High Tea	C	2.02
Highbury Hill	C	1.00
Himself	W	6.30
Homme De Fer	W	4.28
Horwich	W	5.30
How's The Guvnor	W	4.28
I C U In My Dreams	N	12.45
If Not For Dylan	N	3.35
Issadora	C	3.12
It's Maisy	N	3.00
Ivan's Legacy	N	1.20
Jedhi Knight	C	1.30
John W Creasy	C	3.47
Jubilee Jack	C	4.22
Juby Ball	C	2.37
Juno Star	W	6.00

INDEX

Just Call Me Lucy	N	3.00
Justalargewhisky	C	4.22
Kalo Athena	N	2.25
Kapability	C	3.12
Karlita Desbois	C	3.12
Keltype	C	4.22
Kids Say Lastgojoe	N	1.50
Kingofthegame	N	4.10
Koji	W	5.00
Kokushoku	W	5.30
La Lunita	W	6.00
Lady Birgma	W	7.00
Le Beau Gosse	N	2.25
Le Beau Madrik	N	1.20
Leeson Street	W	7.30
Little Ruby	N	12.45
Lizzie Luna	N	3.00
Locked Down Lad	C	1.00
Loulou Madrik	N	1.20
Lucky Sevens	W	5.30
Luna Beaux	W	7.00
Luna Grace	N	12.45
Luwdvig	C	1.00
Man Maid	C	3.12
Marown	N	3.35
Mary Stanford	N	3.00
Midnight Call	W	6.00
Milady Du Breuil	C	3.12
Mini Magna	W	8.30
Misterdoc	C	1.30
Mon Petit Frere	W	7.00
Monsieur Jaco	C	1.00
Moonlight Trail	N	1.20
Mr Winter	C	4.22
Musaytir	W	4.28
My Genghis	W	6.00
My Turn Now	W	6.00
Mythical Isle	W	4.28
Nez Vert	C	4.22
Nordic Games	W	8.00
Nordic Gift	N	1.20
Nowherenearmilan	N	12.45
Ocean Walz	C	1.00
Oh So Perfect	W	7.00
Oldbury Lad	W	5.00
Only One Blue	C	1.30
Orestina	N	12.45
Our Laura B	N	3.00
Out Of Focus	C	1.00
Palacio	C	2.37
Paps Of Jura	W	5.00
Parish Quiz	N	2

TAKING TURNS
Dawson was one of six spinners used against Sri Lanka on Saturday

IT'S ONE TEST AT A TIME FOR VETERAN LIAM

Dawson's focus on World Cup despite red-ball opportunities

BY **SCOTT HUNT** in Colombo

LIAM DAWSON insists he is not thinking about challenging to become England's regular Test spinner as he focuses on his first T20 World Cup at the age of 35.

England took Shoaib Bashir, right, to the Ashes as their premier spinner but the 22-year-old was left out of all five Tests as all-rounder Will Jacks was chosen to provide a spin option.

So the door appears wide open for English spinners to stake a claim. Dawson has played four Tests, spanning from his debut in 2016 to the fourth Test against India last summer.

He was overlooked for the trip Down Under but is a key part of England's white-ball team and has impressed in the first two ODIs in Sri Lanka – with the series level at 1-1 heading into today's decider.

The Hampshire left-armer, though, is not allowing himself to think about a Test future.

"It's not something I've overly thought about. Obviously I've got the World Cup to focus on first, domestic cricket in England, see how that goes and then see where we end up," said Dawson.

"I really enjoyed (that Test). It was enjoyable to play it again.

"(The Ashes was) not something I overly thought about. I played that one Test match and you can't control selection at times, but it's something I didn't really overthink."

The Hampshire left-armer was selected in the 2016 T20 World Cup squad but never played and has twice been a travelling reserve.

He is set to play a key role among England's spin attack at next month's tournament, starting against Nepal in Mumbai on February 9. "Obviously the older you get, sometimes you don't expect to be involved," Dawson added.

"I'm 35 but it's been amazing to be back involved. Obviously the World Cup is going to be a really cool occasion if selected to play and I'm really looking forward to that.

"It's exciting to go to a World Cup and play there. Hopefully we can win tomorrow and build some confidence."

England won their first away ODI under Brendon McCullum – ending an 11-match losing streak – with victory in the second ODI on Saturday.

Captain Harry Brook deployed six spinners as England found a successful formula on a tough wicket.

Dawson admits trying to stake a claim as an English spinner is hard, with the 50-over competition marginalised on the domestic calendar.

"I really enjoy 50-over cricket. I was lucky enough to play a hell of a lot of it when I was younger," he added. "The age I'm at, we grew up with 50-over cricket. We've managed to play a lot of that. It's a format I really enjoy.

"In England you've grown up to sometimes be the back-up for the seamers on seamer-friendly conditions. But you still have a job to do in that.

"It's not all doom and gloom in England bowling spin. You do get a couple of good venues."

SPINNING IT OUT...
Dawson is ready for T20 World Cup debut at 35

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Scheffler shows Rory & Co he is still the man to beat

BY **NEIL McLEMAN**

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER joined Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy in the $100million club after starting his season with another dominant win at The American Express in California.

The world No.1 served early notice to reigning Masters champion McIlroy that he will be the man to beat in the Majors this season.

The American was sidelined in January last year after accidentally stabbing his hand with the stem of a wine glass he was using to shape home-made ravioli.

But he started 2026 cooking on gas with a closing six-under par 66 to finish on 27-under at La Quinta Country Club for a four-shot victory.

It was his 20th win on the PGA Tour – all in the past four years – to earn a lifetime membership. Nine of those 20 victories have been won by four shots or more.

His $1.656m took his on-course earnings to $101,109,136 to join Woods, 50, and McIlroy, 36, in banking nine figures on the PGA Tour.

Scheffler, 29, also joined Woods and Jack Nicklaus as the only players to have 20 PGA Tour titles and four Majors before turning 30.

"Pretty wild," said Scheffler. "Any time you can get mentioned with those guys it means you're doing some stuff right.

"It's been a great start to my career. It's been special. I try not to think about that stuff too much. I was just trying to do the things I needed to do to be prepared."

Since Scheffler recorded his first win at the 2022 WM Phoenix Open, he has 11 more wins than McIlroy (nine). This was the American's seventh victory in his last 13 stroke-play events.

And since finishing tied 20th at The Players' Championship last March, Scheffler hasn't finished lower than eighth.

SERIAL WINNER American legend Tiger Woods

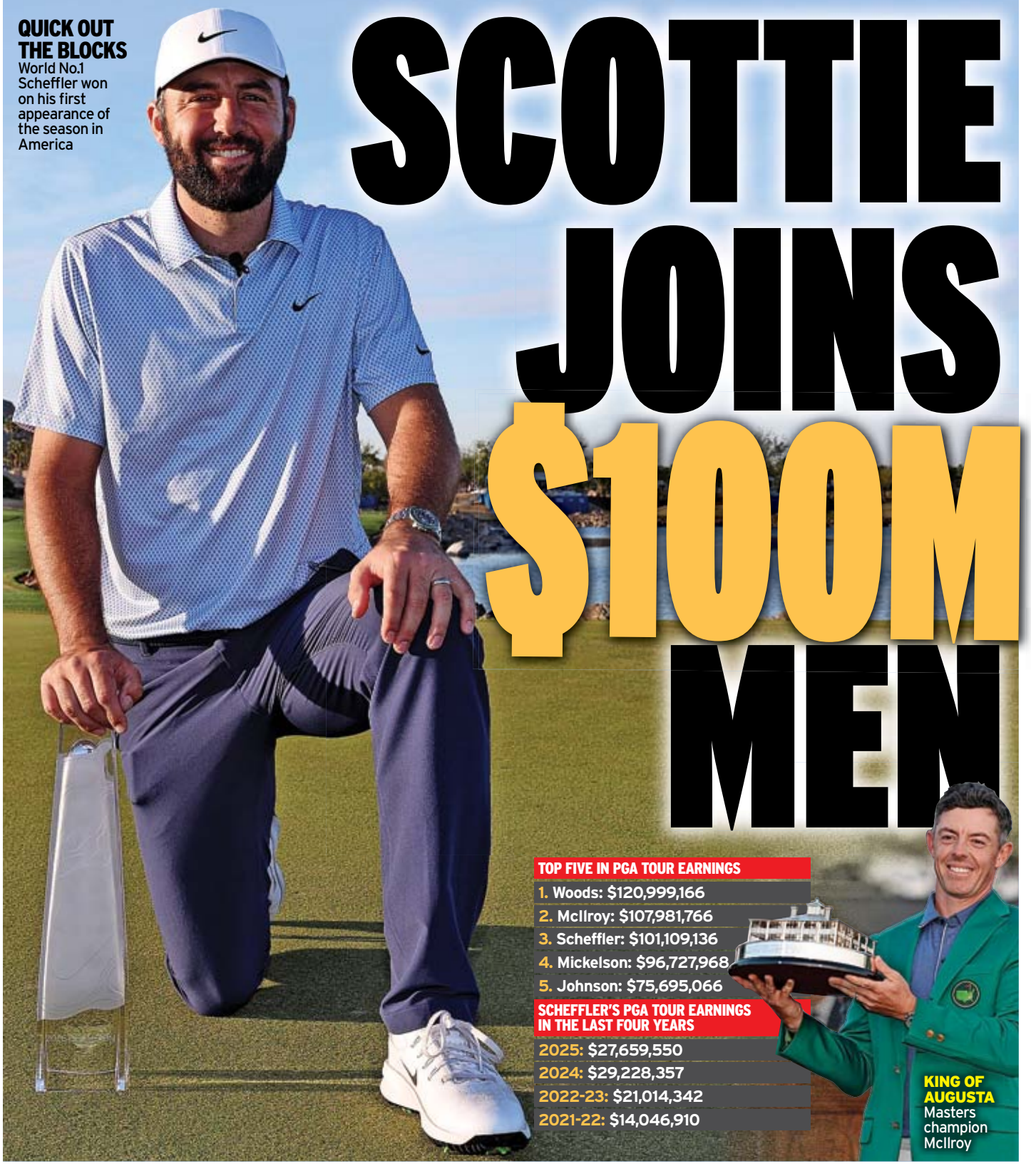
Joint runner-up and former world No.1 Jason Day said: "It's not like we're looking at Tiger, but he's putting up Tiger-ish numbers, even though Tiger was obviously the GOAT. But every time he tees it up he's right around the lead. And that is one of the most difficult things to do, to always stay hungry to the point of not being satisfied. Because it's very easy to get satisfied out here."

What is scary for the rest of golf is that Scheffler reckons he can get even better after his slow start last season, when he did not win until May.

"You look at last year, it is different just because I had made what I felt was so much progress in the offseason and then to have that basically taken away by four to six weeks of inactivity from golf, that has an effect," he warned.

The other star of the week was teenager Blades Brown who played in the final group after starting the day tied with Scheffler and a shot behind overnight leader Si Woo Kim.

Brown, 18, shot a closing 74 to finish tied 18th but said: "To play with Scottie Scheffler and see him win it, that was insane. I had to pinch myself a couple of times just to make sure this was real."



QUICK OUT THE BLOCKS World No.1 Scheffler won on his first appearance of the season in America

SCOTTIE JOINS $100M MEN

TOP FIVE IN PGA TOUR EARNINGS

1. Woods: $120,999,166
2. McIlroy: $107,981,766
3. Scheffler: $101,109,136
4. Mickelson: $96,727,968
5. Johnson: $75,695,066

SCHEFFLER'S PGA TOUR EARNINGS IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS

2025: $27,659,550
2024: $29,228,357
2022-23: $21,014,342
2021-22: $14,046,910

KING OF AUGUSTA Masters champion McIlroy

TENNIS AUSTRALIAN OPEN

APPLE RUMBLE Keys (left) lost the tie – and the bet – to Pegula

CHAMP SERVED HUMBLE PIE IN PEGULA WAGER

FROM **YASMIN SYED** in Melbourne

MADISON KEYS will have to take on a "gross" food forfeit after being sent packing from the Australian Open.

Reigning champion Keys suffered a 6-3 6-4 defeat to good friend and countrywoman, Jessica Pegula.

Keys and Pegula co-host the Players Box Podcast with fellow tennis stars Jennifer Brady and Desirae Krawczyk, and agreed to a brutal wager in their latest episode.

The 30-year-old will have to eat a slice of apple pie with melted cheddar cheese as a penalty for losing to the No.6 seed.

Pegula enjoys the unusual combination as a family Thanksgiving tradition.

It caused a stir on the podcast, and Keys must now give it a try.

She said: "A bet is a bet, so I'll do it. I hope it's less gross than I think it's going to be, but we will find out, I guess."

Pegula's family owns the NFL's Buffalo Bills – had she lost, she would have been made to wear a Kansas City Chiefs jersey. And the 31-year-old thought her forfeit would have been worse after the Chiefs knocked the Bills out of the playoffs four times in five years between 2020 and 2024.

Pegula said: "All she has to do is eat a piece of pie. What is the big deal?

"I think that was really some extra motivation, because that would have been a tough moment for me."

No.2 seed Iga Swiatek continued her quest to complete the career Grand Slam with a dominant 6-0 6-3 win over Aussie qualifier Maddison Inglis.

The world No.168 enjoyed a fairytale run, making it to the second week of a Major for the first time in her career and banking £243,000 in prize money.

Swiatek will now face Elena Rybakina, who has won 17 of her last 18 matches – including against Swiatek in November's WTA Finals.

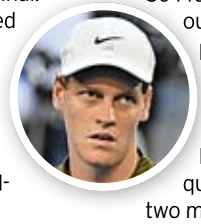
The six-time Major winner said: "In every match, she's been a tough opponent, and her tennis is great. I need to be 100 percent ready."

Sinner's in good Nik

FROM **YASMIN SYED**

JANNIK SINNER said he felt back on track following his injury scare as he reached his third straight Australian Open quarter-final.

The No.2 seed (right) sparked concerns when he started cramping during his third-round match.



But the 2024 and 2025 champion looked his usual self as he defeated friend and fellow Italian Luciano Darderi 6-1 6-3 7-6. Sinner, who will take on Ben Shelton in the last eight, said: "I felt like it was a really solid performance.

"Everything is different in every day. So I felt quite good out there physically."

Lorenzo Musetti will face Novak Djokovic in the quarter-finals – two months after the Serb beat him in a thrilling final in Athens.

No.5 seed Musetti said: "Hopefully I'll take my revenge, because last time in Athens we were really, really close."

REDEMPTION Darnold led Seattle to the Super Bowl

Seahawk Sam right at home

NFL: PLAY-OFFS

BY **KEITH WEBSTER**

SAM DARNOLD bounced around the NFL for seven years and was shown the door by four different teams.

But after he led the Seattle Seahawks into Super Bowl LX by beating the Los Angeles Rams, head coach Mike Macdonald said his redemption story was now written and his critics put to the sword.

"You can't talk about the game without talking about our quarterback," Macdonald said of Darnold, who had been fighting injury all week. "He shut a lot of people up tonight, so I'm really happy for him.

"Every time they scored, he came back. The guy barely practised all week. He deserves it. He's been a rock for us.

"I'm not a quarterback expert, but that's some high-powered quarterbacking going on in that game by No.14."

Seattle will take on New England in the Super Bowl on February 8 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, after the Patriots survived a snow storm in Denver to knock out the Broncos and qualify for a record 12th appearance in the showpiece event.

And Darnold will go into the biggest game of his life with bags of confidence after throwing three touchdown passes in a nail-biting 31-27 win over the Rams after a season when he has finally felt like he is wanted at a club.

He said: "It's unbelievable. It's (about) the team. Just the hard work that we've put in throughout this season.

"I feel that support. Not only with their words, but with how everyone treats each other."

Rams head coach Sean McVay said: "Nothing but respect for the Seahawks. I'm pretty numb. I felt like we were going to be the team on that podium and we weren't."

EYEING GLORY The captains with the trophy during the launch event for the Guinness Six Nations at The Hub, Edinburgh

MARO'S PAIN WILL DRIVE US

George 6 Nations mission to ease captain Itoje's heartbreak

BY **ADAM HATHAWAY**

MARO ITOJE will arrive late in England's Six Nations camp tomorrow after a personal tragedy but has been backed to fire up the Red Roses campaign.

The skipper lost his mother, Florence, in December, and has been in Nigeria for her funeral but will join the national squad in Girona this week.

Itoje, rightly, was excused duties at yesterday's tournament launch in Edinburgh, where his old mate from Saracens, and England vice-captain, Jamie George stood in before flying to Spain.

Hooker George was in the same city where, as captain, two years ago ahead of England's Calcutta Cup clash with Scotland he was trying to process the recent loss of his mother, Jane.

The pair have shared three Six Nations titles with England, plus eight major trophies at Saracens, and George has put his arm around Itoje's shoulder and vowed to support him to the hilt.

George said: "The parallels are scary, really. It's heart-breaking news. I know how much of a difficult time he's going through but he's been good. It's been really impressive how he's handled himself. My biggest message to him was to make sure he gives himself enough time to grieve and to process things.

"He's had a good opportunity to do that and is only going to come back when he's fully ready to give everything of himself to the squad and be successful to make the rest of his family very, very proud. We're all determined to do that for him, too."

England boss Steve Borthwick has seen the progression of Itoje from a Six Nations rookie to first name on the team-sheet and then on to become a Lions series-winning captain.

Borthwick was part of Eddie Jones' coaching team when Itoje made his Test debut, as a replacement against Italy a decade ago, and when he started the rest of the campaign as England landed their 2016 Grand Slam, 13 years after their last.

It was Borthwick who removed George as captain ahead of last year's Six Nations, installing Itoje in the post, and that has borne fruit with England on a run of 11 wins on the spin.

Borthwick added: "When I have talked to him I sense emotionally he has found it very tough, very challenging. Now in Nigeria this week it is an important step for him and everyone close to him.

"He has developed to be a really powerful captain, articulate and calm. One of his great strengths as a captain is the way he uses others. The way he understands when to use Jamie, George Ford, Ellis Genge.

"From where he was at the start of his career to now, he is a superb line-out caller and line-out leader. We look forward to having him back with us."

England have a week in Girona before flying back next Tuesday, having one day off, then regrouping in London ahead of the opener against Wales on February 7.

HELP WITH THE BATTLE Ace Itoje will have plenty of support in the England camp as he grieves the recent loss of his mother

BORTHWICK GLOBETROTTING WOE

BY **ADAM HATHAWAY**

STEVE BORTHWICK could split his squad into two groups as he attempts to plot his way through this summer's new-fangled Nations Championship.

Fixtures are expected to be confirmed next week but England are facing a gruelling July criss-crossing the globe to fulfil the programme.

They will fly to Johannesburg to meet world champions South Africa on July 4 then they are expected to jet back to the UK to play Fiji, probably in the north-west of England. The day after that game they head to Buenos Aires before playing Argentina in Santiago del Estero on July 18.

Borthwick (right) said: "It's one of the considerations I have right now. We are looking at how we manage that."

England will also play a France XV in Vannes the week before they fly to South Africa.

LAKE'S LET-UP

BY **ADAM HATHAWAY**

WALES captain Dewi Lake insists playing England in their Six Nations opener on February 7 will be a relief from the rugby war currently raging in his country.

The hooker, who will jump ship from the Ospreys to Gloucester next season, has watched on helplessly as the Welsh game has torn itself to pieces with his own region set to be chopped. The skipper said: "It is a tough situation. It is probably quite a welcome distraction, having the ability to throw yourself into matches or watch the opposition."

PREMIER LEAGUE
EVERTON LEEDS
58% POSSESSION 42%
3 SHOTS ON TARGET 4
3 SHOTS OFF TARGET 7
538 TOTAL PASSES 393
4 CORNERS 4
1 OFFSIDES 0
9 FOULS 13
0 0 CARDS 3 0
REF: Simon Hooper ATT: 51,979
LINE-UPS
EVERTON (4-2-3-1): Pickford; Patterson (Dibling 71), Tarkowski, O'Brien, Mykolenko; Gueye, Garner; Ndiaye, McNeil (Dewsbury-Hall 46), Armstrong (Branthwaite 46); Barry (Beto 89)
LEEDS (3-4-3): Darlow; Bornauw (Buonanotte 85), Rodon, Struijk; Bogle, Ampadu, Gruev (Tanaka 66), Justin; Stach (Longstaff 85), Calvert-Lewin, Aaronson (Okafor 85)
MAN OF THE MATCH
BRENDEN AARONSON
1-1
Barry fires the ball home at speed to equalise after Justin's opener (inset)
0-1
Stake

BARRY SHEEN

Everton goal ace strikes again to steal point for Moyes' battlers

EVERTON 1
Barry 76
LEEDS 1
Justin 28

BY **ANDY DUNN**

IT was only an equaliser but Thierno Barry celebrated with cup final gusto, going through his full repertoire for the crowd and the cameras.

Good on him. The young French striker struggled dreadfully in the first three months of his Premier League career but he kept working and Everton kept the faith.

And that faith has been rewarded with four goals in his last five Premier League games, the latest giving David Moyes' side a point against a Leeds side that had dominated the first half at the Hill Dickinson Stadium.

And Leeds boss Daniel Farke (circled) was left ruing the fact that his side could have been out of sight by the interval.

Everton's last win at their relatively new home was back in early December against Nottingham Forest.

So, despite significant recent wins on the road, it was easy to understand why the riverside stadium was not exactly rippling with anticipation ahead of kick-off.

And the mild sense of foreboding was justified as Farke's side dominated early possession and carried the more significant threat. To be fair, that was not too difficult to do, as Everton's threat level was zero.

The only surprise was that it took Leeds almost half an hour to get themselves ahead, James Justin finishing a move that was a combination of some nice attacking work on the right flank and some seriously ropey defending.

Which, essentially, was the story of a first half that should have seen Leeds take a firmer grip on matters.

That they didn't was down to some over-elaboration in the final third and to the upright denying former Toffees striker Dominic Calvert-Lewin. Everton's shocking performance demanded half-time personnel changes and they duly arrived with both Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall and Jarrad Branthwaite making comebacks from injury, the latter for his first appearance of the season.

The changes certainly gave Everton an edge they had been painfully lacking and gave the home support a lift that was badly needed.

David Moyes' team were given extra encouragement by a palpable change in attitude from Leeds, who went from being on the front foot to the back foot in sharpish fashion.

It was still past the hour mark when Karl Darlow had to make his first save of the contest but Everton had somehow claimed the attacking initiative.

It was Barry who forced the Darlow save and it was Barry who was first to Idrissa Gueye's drilled cross to finish with surprising expertise for the leveller.

During the opening 45 minutes, Gueye had looked as though he was suffering from his AFCON exertions and celebrations with Senegal.

But he came to life in the later stages and saw a potentially match-winning effort crash against the bar.

It would, though, have been an undeserving winner.

Leeds were good value for their point and Farke will probably believe that he should have had more.

CANARIES' AHMED ON TARGET AS SKY BLUES BLOW IT

Norwich 2 Coventry 1

BY **ANDY TURNER**

COVENTRY CITY wasted a chance to restore their six-point cushion at the top of the Championship by gifting Norwich a win at Carrow Road.

The Sky Blues led at the break through Romain Esse, only for Anis Ben Slimane to pull the hosts level straight from the second-half restart. Then Frank Lampard's men pressed the self destruct button.

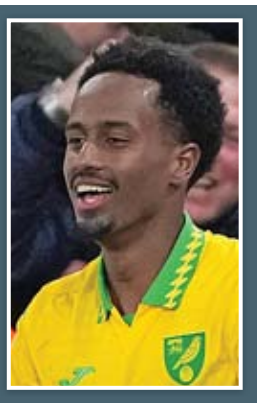
They gifted the Canaries the lead as Liam Kitching lost possession at the back and the visitors were punished by Ali Ahmed (celebrating, right).

Carl Rushworth dropped down low to deny Ben Slimane as Norwich looked the more likely to break the deadlock in a lively first half.

But Esse showed terrific determination to ride two challenges in the box and then beat goalkeeper Vladan Kovacevic at his near post in the 38th minute.

Philippe Clement's men came flying out of the traps in the second half, equalising with just 40 seconds on the clock as Ahmed played Ben Slimane in behind where he rounded the keeper and slotted home.

Defender Kitching was then caught in possession by Jovon Makama who spread the ball wide to Papa Diallo, who pulled back for Ahmed to pick his spot for the 68th-minute winner.



SPORT IN BRIEF

Premier League

EVERTON (0)..... 1 LEEDS (1)..... 1
Barry 76 Justin 28

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	23	15	5	3	42	17	50
Man City	23	14	4	5	47	21	46
Aston Villa	23	14	4	5	35	25	46
Man Utd	23	10	8	5	41	34	38
Chelsea	23	10	7	6	39	25	37
Liverpool	23	10	6	7	35	32	36
Fulham	23	10	4	9	32	32	34
Brentford	23	10	3	10	35	32	33
Newcastle	23	9	6	8	32	29	33
Everton	23	9	6	8	25	26	33
Sunderland	23	8	9	6	24	26	33
Brighton	23	7	9	7	33	31	30
Bournemouth	23	7	9	7	38	43	30
Tottenham	23	7	7	9	33	31	28
Crystal Palace	23	7	7	9	24	28	28
Leeds	23	6	8	9	31	38	26
Nottm Forest	23	7	4	12	23	34	25
West Ham	23	5	5	13	27	45	20
Burnley	23	3	6	14	25	44	15
Wolves	23	1	5	17	15	43	8

Sky Bet Championship

NORWICH (0)..... 2 COVENTRY (1)..... 1
Ben Slimane 46 Esse 38
Ahmed 67
Att: 25,452

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Coventry	29	17	7	5	62	33	58
Middlesbro	29	16	7	6	46	29	55
Ipswich	28	14	8	6	48	27	50
Hull	28	15	5	8	47	40	50
Millwall	29	14	7	8	36	35	49
Wrexham	29	11	11	7	43	37	44
Bristol City	29	12	7	10	40	31	43
Watford	28	11	10	7	39	33	43
Preston	29	11	10	8	36	33	43
Stoke	29	12	6	11	34	26	42
Derby	29	11	9	9	39	37	42
QPR	29	11	7	11	40	42	40
Birmingham	29	10	9	10	39	38	39
Leicester	29	10	8	11	40	43	38
Southampton	29	9	10	10	41	41	37
Swansea	29	10	6	13	32	37	36
Sheff Utd	28	11	2	15	39	41	35
Norwich	29	9	6	14	37	41	33
Charlton	28	8	8	12	27	38	32
West Brom	29	9	5	15	32	44	32
Portsmouth	27	7	9	11	24	37	30
Blackburn	28	7	8	13	26	37	29
Oxford Utd	28	6	9	13	27	36	27
Sheff Wed	28	1	8	19	18	56	-7

ENTERPRISE NATIONAL LEAGUE—South: Chelmsford 1 Tonbridge Angels 0.

CRICKET

MEN'S U19 WORLD CUP—Super Sixes, Group 2 (Bulawayo): Bangladesh 136 (38.1 overs); England 137-3 (24.1 overs). *England won by 7 wickets.*

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourne Park)**—Men's Singles 4th rnd: (5)** L Musetti (Ita) bt **(9)** T Fritz (USA) 6-2 7-5 6-4, **(4)** N Djokovic (Ser) bt **(16)** J Mensik (Cze) w/o, **(8)** B Shelton (USA) bt **(12)** C Ruud (Nor) 3-6 6-4 6-3 6-4, **(2)** J Sinner (Ita) bt **(22)** L Darderi (Ita) 6-1 6-3 7-6 (7-2).
Women's Singles 4th rnd: (6) J Pegula (USA) bt **(9)** M Keys (USA) 6-3 6-4, **(4)** A Anisimova (USA) bt X Yu Wang (Chn) 7-6 (7-4) 6-4, **(5)** E Rybakina (Kaz) bt **(21)** E Mertens (Bel) 6-1 6-3, **(2)** I Swiatek (Pol) bt M Inglis (Aus) 6-0 6-3.
Men's Doubles 3rd rnd: P Nouza & P Rikl (Cze) bt **(2)** H Heliovaara (Fin) & **H PATTEN** (Gbr) 7-6 (7-4) 7-6 (8-6).
Mixed Doubles 2nd rnd: K Mladenovic & M Guinard (Fra) bt **(3)** D Schuurs (Ned) & **J CASH** (Gbr) 7-6 (7-3) 5-7 10-2.

TODAY'S DIARY

(7.45pm unless stated)

Sky Bet League One
Blackpool v Stockport Co
Bolton v Burton
Cardiff v Barnsley
Doncaster v Leyton Orient (8pm)
(Live on Sky Sports Main Event)
Huddersfield v Luton
Lincoln City v Bradford
Plymouth v Mansfield
Port Vale v AFC Wimbledon
Reading v Exeter (8pm)
Rotherham v Northampton
Stevenage v Peterborough
Wycombe v Wigan

Sky Bet League Two
Barnet v Tranmere
Barrow v Oldham
Bromley v Crewe
Cambridge Utd v Shrewsbury
Cheltenham v Gillingham
Colchester v Grimsby
Harrogate Tn v Fleetwood
Milton Keynes Dons v Bristol Rovers
Newport Co v Accrington (7.30)
Notts County v Swindon
Salford City v Chesterfield
Walsall v Crawley

Enterprise National League
Rochdale v Southend

KDM Evolution Trophy Quarter-finals
Arbroath v Airdrieonians
Inverness CT v Stenhousemuir
Queen's Park v Raith
St Johnstone v Ayr
(Live on BBC Alba)

William Hill Scottish League Two: East Kilbride v Spartans, Stranraer v Clyde.
BetMcLean Irish League Cup—Semi-final: Linfield v Ballymena Utd.
Clearer Water Irish Cup—5th rnd: Loughgall v Knockbreda.

CRICKET
Third ODI: Sri Lanka v England (Colombo, 9am).
First T20I: South Africa v West Indies (Paarl, 4pm).

INJURY CRISIS Eddie Howe

Howe has high hope for subs

BY **DAMIAN SPELLMAN**

NEWCASTLE boss Eddie Howe has put his midfield understudies on Champions League red alert as injuries threaten to derail his mission to dent the holders' defence.

The Magpies visit Paris St-Germain tomorrow night sitting in seventh place in the table, one below the reigning champions by virtue only of goals scored and knowing victory would almost certainly send them directly through to the knockout stage.

However, they will launch their preparations with major doubts over Bruno Guimaraes and Joelinton, and that could mean significant roles for the likes of Jacob Ramsey, Joe Willock and Anthony Elanga.

Howe said: "They're all big players for us and desperate to play, and I don't doubt their qualities.

"I've got no doubt in the next group of games they're going to be really important. They're going to get their opportunity to showcase what they can do.

"I thought they did that when they came on the pitch (in 2-0 defeat to Aston Villa on Sunday). They made us better and that's all I can ask."

Goodbye grumpy... hello sleepy

PEP CAN REST EASY AS SILVA LIFTS MOOD

BY **KEITH WEBSTER**

PEP GUARDIOLA is banking on his captain marvel tomorrow night to help fire Manchester City to an automatic place in the Champions League last 16.

Bernardo Silva missed last week's Norwegian nightmare as City slumped to a shock 3-1 defeat on the road against Bodo/Glimt.

That left them in 11th place in the Champions League table, alongside seven others also on 13 points.

It will mean a frantic scramble across Europe as teams try to claim one of the eight automatic last-16 places and avoid a two-legged play-off.

And the Blues boss knows that welcoming back Silva against Galatasaray – a side including City old boys Ilkay Gundogan and Leroy Sane – at the Etihad is not only good for the team's chances but also for Guardiola's own well-being.

"I sleep better when I decide to play him in the team and I have to take care of my health," he said. "He's a competitor and he has fire in his eyes still. Hopefully he can inoculate this fire to the rest of the group – how we defend every ball, how we read what we have to do.

"The guy who creates excuses forgets the mistakes and he never finds excuses.

"He is special because of how he competes in every game. Sometimes he cannot because he is exhausted.

"He has played the most minutes with me in 10 seasons here because he's really good."

Guardiola will be forced to test the depth of his squad because of players he cannot select.

January signings Marc Guehi and Antoine Semenyo are ineligible for European competition while Rodri will miss out through suspension after his red card last week.

City also have to deal with numerous injury problems.

All that has left Guardiola to call on the supporters to play their part in pushing the club to victory in a must-win game.

"We need our fans," he added as he prepared to welcome the Turkish giants, who will probably need to take at least a point to keep alive their own hopes of a play-off place.

"Marc, Antoine, Rodri cannot play, apart from all the players on the sidelines. Nico O'Reilly, Savinho, John Stones will not be ready.

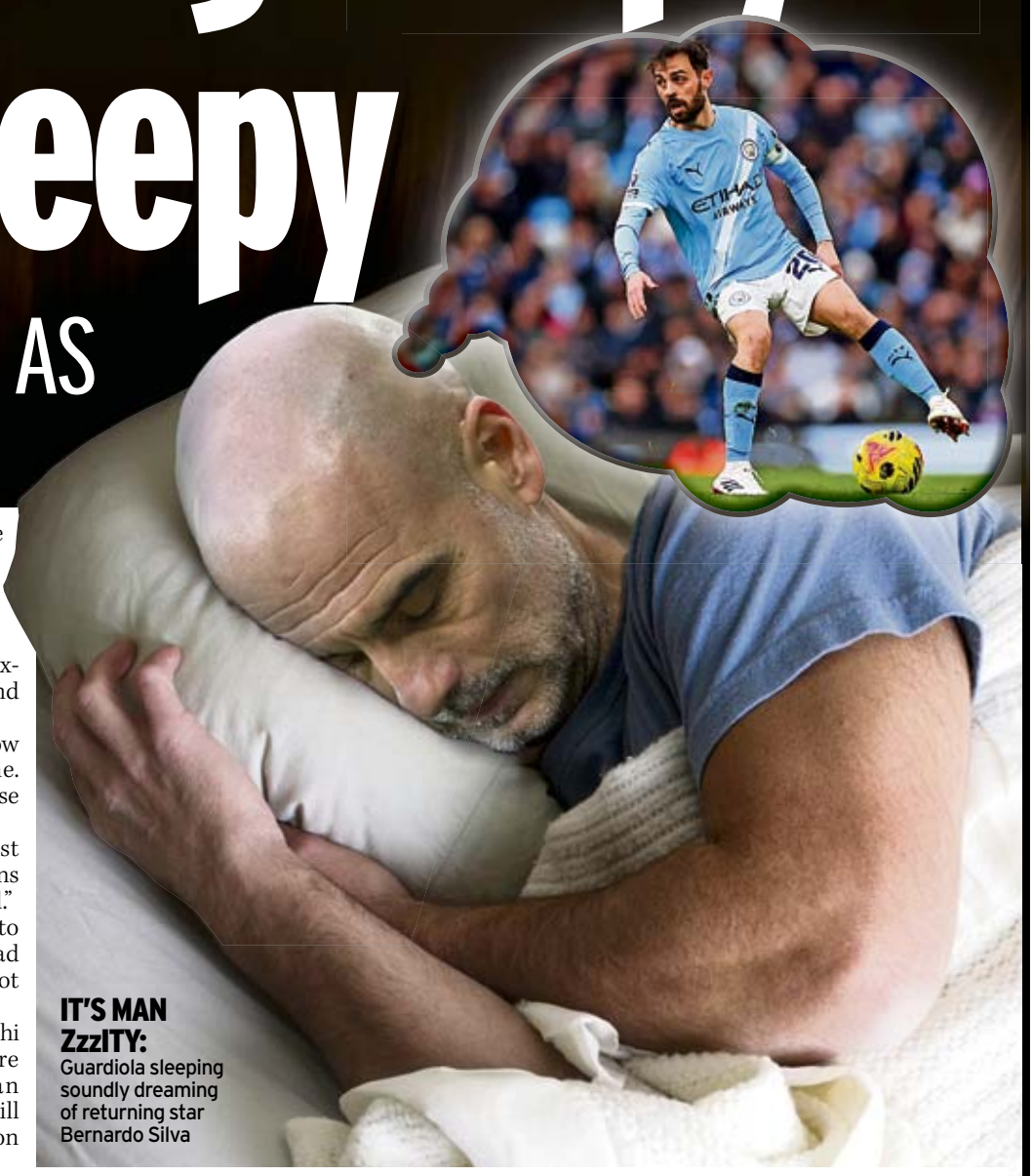
"A long list but hopefully we will continue in this competition.

"Last season at this stage we played against Club Brugge and if we lost we went home. That will not happen this time.

"Of course we want to finish in the first eight.

"We have to win our game and wait for what happens elsewhere."

■ FULHAM are in advanced talks to City winger Oscar Bobb. The Cottagers are close to reaching an agreement for the 22-year-old who has not played since the Carabao Cup tie with Brentford on December 17.



IT'S MAN ZzzITY: Guardiola sleeping soundly dreaming of returning star Bernardo Silva

SEN-SATIONAL Keeper Lammens celebrates after United's victory against Arsenal

Carrick has Ratcliffe on board says Lammens

BOSS PRAISED AFTER SHOCK WIN

BY **STEVE RAILSTON**

SENNE LAMMENS has revealed Michael Carrick got the seal of approval from Sir Jim Ratcliffe after Manchester United's win at Arsenal.

And the United goalkeeper claims Carrick's back-to-basics approach is behind their upturn in form following the sacking of Ruben Amorim.

The Red Devils secured a dramatic 3-2 victory at the Emirates thanks to a late goal from Matheus Cunha, which condemned Arsenal to a first home defeat in the Premier League this season.

United co-owner Ratcliffe attended the thriller along with CEO Omar Berrada and director of football Jason Wilcox, and Lammens admitted it was inspiring to see the club's hierarchy show their support for Carrick.

"I just saw him there when we came out of the dressing room," said Lammens of Ratcliffe. "He was talking to the coach. It's nice to see them (the United board) as well, supporting the team as well, as they have. So it's always a good feeling and good support for them."

Carrick (left) guided United to a derby win over Manchester City in his first game in charge and Lammens put the team's improvement down to the clear messages coming from their new boss.

The Belgian said: "I'm gonna be honest, there's not many special things he did. It's just like sticking to the basics.

"Football is basics. If you do the basics well, then the quality of us comes out, and I think we have players with the quality that can make the difference.

"But if you just do the basics right technically, we're standing right, defending well together and just playing as a team. He made it really clear what he wants from us and what he expects from us. On the pitch sometimes it (the plan against Arsenal) didn't really come out, but if you fight as a team and if you keep believing in it, then you can still get the win."

CAPITAL GAINS Ratcliffe and Berrada at the Emirates

Asked about Carrick's post-match message to the players, Lammens said: "To be honest, the same things.

"It wasn't the prettiest game, but those were the most difficult ones. Last week (against City) was, I think, in every aspect, a good game. I think we played really well. Against Arsenal it was not always perfect.

"But like I said before, if you work hard as a team, you can always win. And now it's up to us.

"We're there, top four, to stay there and to even look above us. Those games against those top teams, you have to win.

"But now the coming weeks, when they expect more from us, when we are the favourite to win, then you also have to pull through and those are also really important games."

United host Fulham on Sunday and Lammens added: "Now we have to win against those teams who are maybe a little bit more difficult to play against, playing against low blocks. If you wanna be a great team, you have to win against those teams as well."

MAGIC MOMENT Awoniyi netted his first goal in 12 months

Taiwo's in heaven after injury hell

BY **SARAH CLAPSON**

NOTTINGHAM FOREST striker Taiwo Awoniyi insists he never lost faith he could still cut it in the Premier League after a nightmare year.

The Nigerian scored his first top-flight goal since January 2025 when he put the seal on Forest's 2-0 win at Brentford on Sunday.

Coming off the bench at the Gtech Community Stadium represented only a ninth appearance of the season for Awoniyi.

And finding the back of the net was a magical moment for the forward who sustained a serious abdominal injury toward the end of last term.

"For me, I've always believed this is where I want to be," said Awoniyi. "I've always believed I'm a Premier League player, no matter what is going on around me. That's my focus.

"Unfortunately, with what I've been through over the last one-and-a-half years, I've not been playing a lot.

"The coach (Sean Dyche) came in and brought me back, which is something I'm happy about. Getting the goal is something I'm happy about."

Awoniyi ruptured his intestine when he collided with a post during Forest's 2-2 draw with Leicester in May. He was placed in an induced coma and underwent two operations, but his faith kept him going.

"I've always believed in God," he explained. "I've always believed in myself and I know he will always be there for me, no matter what.

"To be honest, that's something about me and my family, where I grew up I've always said, 'I've seen worse'. The only thing that has kept me going is the man up there."

Awoniyi's strike came after Igor Jesus (above) had opened the scoring for Dyche's side. Three points against the Bees means Forest have a five-point buffer between themselves and the relegation zone.

"For every centre-forward, you just want to be there; you want to be there for your team-mate. Igor is my good friend and we speak to each other a lot," Awoniyi added.

WELCOME MAT

BY **DANIEL MARSH**

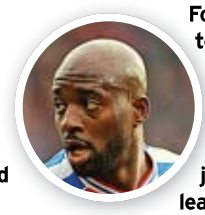
NOTTINGHAM Forest have made a £35million bid to sign striker Jean-Philippe Mateta, but Crystal Palace want a replacement before selling.

Mateta is keen to leave Palace with Aston Villa and Juventus both interested in the forward.

Forest have made their bid, with personal terms between the club and Mateta, 28, not expected to be an issue.

But Palace still need to sign a replacement, and want a package worth around £40m.

Wolves' Jorgen Strand Larsen is an option for Palace with Leeds having already made a bid.



Forest are eager to boost their attacking options, with Chris Wood having made just eight league appearances this season due to a knee injury.

Sean Dyche did, however, sign striker Lorenzo Lucca from Napoli last week.

NOT TIED UP Fernandes will want a huge pay hike

United must splash out to keep Bruno

BY **JEREMY CROSS**

MANCHESTER UNITED will have to break the bank to keep Bruno Fernandes at Old Trafford this summer.

Fernandes is considering his future and will be inundated with offers at the end of the season. United will need to offer him close to £400,000 per week to convince him to stay. The Portuguese midfielder is disillusioned with how the club is run and the managerial changes. He came close to leaving last summer but rejected the chance to join the Saudi Pro League.

While the United captain has been impressed with the impact Michael Carrick has made as interim manager, he wants to see who the next permanent boss will be.

The 31-year-old knows his next deal will be the last major one of his career and needs to cash in.

He also knows Old Trafford bosses are desperate for him not to leave. United will stand a better chance of keeping Fernandes if they can offer him Champions League football but they will still have to make him the highest-paid player at the club.

Such a deal would be a significant increase on his current contract, which runs until 2027 and has the option of a 12-month extension.

LOOKING UP Aston Villa midfielder Amadou Onana

All we can Dou is go On and on

BY **JOHN TOWNLEY**

AMADOU ONANA insists Aston Villa must look up the table rather than behind them after narrowing the gap on leaders Arsenal to just four points.

Unai Emery's side defeated Newcastle 2-0 at St James' Park on Sunday, a statement result considering the club's previously woeful record on Tyneside, having failed to win in their last 17 visits.

After Arsenal's dramatic home defeat by Manchester United, Villa and Manchester City can continue piling the pressure on the Gunners.

And while Emery currently refuses to entertain title talk, he may not be able to dismiss their claims much longer.

"It's just about trying to perform week-in, week-out and going out there, putting on the best performance we can and playing to the max of our ability," Onana said.

"Arsenal are the clear favourites, we just try to keep up with them.

"You always want to look up the table and try to challenge those teams in front of us. There's no point looking backwards."

After beating Fenerbahce less than 70 hours before playing at Newcastle, the win over Eddie Howe's side capped off a perfect week for Emery's men.

Onana said: "This win will definitely give the team some more confidence."

Villa's title hopes will be boosted further by the expected arrival of striker Tammy Abraham.

Besiktas have signed Abraham from Roma on a permanent deal, opening the door for his move to Villa Park. Abraham, 28, joined the Turks on loan in the summer, with the deal including an obligation to buy.

Villa have agreed an £18m deal with Besiktas for him.

BLOW IT AND THE WORK OF ART WILL CRUMBLE

LEADERS STUNNED Arsenal's stars react after conceding against United

COMMENT

BY **JOHN CROSS**

THE biggest danger to Arsenal is, undoubtedly, themselves.

There was a nervousness and a fear in the players and their display against Manchester United.

The only way of overcoming that anxiety is, of course, to get themselves over the line and win the title. But until that happens...

It has become a Catch-22 for Mikel Arteta and his players, and the fear is that if they blow it from here then it is hard to see this manager ever doing it.

The scene in the Arsenal dressing room, no matter what Arteta says, was one of players on the floor and in despair after that United defeat.

It was painful, self-inflicted and so damaging because it has really knocked confidence in a team which was seven points clear at the start of the weekend.

Manchester City and Aston Villa won and applied some pressure on Arsenal – and they crumbled.

Former Gunners captain Patrick Vieira had his say on Sky, speaking about the team not having enough leaders. He questioned their mental strength.

In all honesty, every member of the Invincibles team is now viewed

Hard for Mikel to ever win the title if Arsenal suffer collapse

as a leader because they won Arsenal's last league title back in 2004 and did it with such style.

But how on earth do you get to that place? It is difficult to convince anyone until you get over the line. But you cannot tell me that Jurrien Timber does not have strong qualities. Nor Gabriel.

Declan Rice is the best marauding midfielder in the Premier League right now. Martin Zubimendi – yes, mistake and all – has won with Spain. Gabriel Jesus was terrible but won with Manchester City.

Bukayo Saka wears the armband on occasion. Martin Odegaard captains both Arsenal and Norway. He leads the press in games, he is loud and demonstrative. People might not see him as a captain but he leads by example.

But all of this means nothing until they win the title. If they get over the line, they will grow as players and personalities. If they blow it, they will shrink and have self doubt.

Get over the line and the players will grow... blow it and they will shrink

If you speak to other coaches they will say Arsenal are the best drilled team in the Premier League. But Arteta (above) was outwitted by United's rookie boss Michael Carrick on Sunday.

He has to pick up the players from here after just two points from their last three games.

Where next? Leeds away. If they win there, then it's all on again. If they slip up, then it really is a crisis. Then you might see a collapse.

And just to complicate matters further, they have such an issue up front. Yes, they scored three goals at Inter Milan just five days earlier. But Arsenal spent £64million on Viktor Gyokeres last summer – and have ended up looking worse up top than last season. He is not good enough while Jesus finally started against United – and was pretty poor. Kai Havertz is still not fully fit.

It takes some doing, spending so much on a striker and then looking worse as a team. But they have managed it.

People are beginning to say Arteta's side would be champions by default. That is harsh on City and Villa. They have been brilliant.

But Arsenal do have a big opportunity because their main rivals are not at their best.

This is a test of their mettle. But if they do not do it under Arteta this season, from a position of real strength, it will be 10 times harder next season.

STRIKER CRISIS Martinez duels with Gyokeres who struggled to make an impact

Arteta's still gunning for the title as stars suffer huge setback

FROM BACK PAGE

City and Aston Villa at the weekend.

But Arteta told his squad they must not lose their nerve or listen to any negative noise around them, as they gear up to get their title challenge back on track in a huge game at Leeds on Saturday.

Arteta's rallying cry was echoed by Arsenal captain Martin Odegaard (below), who warned his team-mates must not let their heads drop.

Odegaard said: "It is a long run and there is a long way to go. Obviously, we are very disappointed and we should have won this game (against United).

"But that's football and there are going to be ups and downs. Now it is about how we deal with that and the key thing is to be together and work hard.

"Focus on the next game, win that, and go from there. We are still top of the league. We are still in a good position.

"Let's be in the moment. Look for the next game, bounce back and be together now. That is all we are going to do."

Arsenal have not won the Premier League since 2004 and have finished as runners-up in each of the last three seasons.

But Odegaard insisted they are not panicking and will use previous disappointments to drive them on to success this time.

Asked whether the Gunners are haunted by their previous failures to last the course, Odegaard said: "Obviously it is a factor but it can be a good factor as well.

"It gives you more fuel, and more hunger and determination to get it done.

"We have experienced, in all those seasons, that it is a long run and a lot of things happen.

"We need to be together now, look for the next game and bounce back."

The Emirates crowd seemed nervous and edgy on Sunday but Odegaard added: "I didn't feel that, to be honest. I was so focused on the game.

"There were definitely things we should have done better.

"But it is time to be together now, it was never going to be easy as it is tough in this league. We just have to keep working and keep going.

"We are still top of the league and we will keep pushing each other."

TARGET Shearer holds Prem goalscoring record

Kane eyes new deal at Bayern

FROM BACK PAGE

games in all competitions. He helped Bayern win the Bundesliga title last season – the first major trophy of Kane's career.

Barcelona had shown interest in signing Kane, who has a £54m release clause, but Bayern confirmed negotiations over a contract extension have started.

It's understood Bayern are willing to make the striker one of the highest-paid stars in the club's history. The deal would see Kane commit his future to Bayern until 2029, taking him to the brink of his 36th birthday.

Bayern sporting director Max Eberl confirmed: "We are in talks with Harry."

Kane is said to be loving life in Munich, and has no ambitions to return to English football.

Earlier this season Kane said: "No, (I'm not considering coming back) at the moment. I'm really happy here."

Kane has scored 213 Premier League goals – 47 behind record-holder Shearer.

Paqueta's Irons exit

FROM BACK PAGE

has not played for Nuno Espirito's side since defeat by Nottingham Forest earlier this month.

He refused to play in the FA Cup clash with QPR while he has also been struggling with a back injury.

Paqueta is contracted to West Ham until the summer of 2027 with the Hammers understood to be disappointed by his desire to leave.

They supported him during his two-year spot-fixing saga with the former Lyon star cleared of charges last July.

Flamengo president Luiz Eduardo Baptista said: "We reached an agreement on several aspects."

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SPORT
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HEARTBREAK

George stands by skipper Itoje after loss of his mum

SIX NATIONS LAUNCH: PAGE 54

SHOWMAN
Barry celebrates his equaliser

Barry basks in glory

EVERTON 1 LEEDS UTD 1

TOFFEES TURN TABLES: SEE PAGE 55

WE'RE STILL TOP GUNS

WE'RE GUNNER GO ALL THE WAY
Arteta insists Arsenal are still favourites to win the title. Below: Dejected stars Raya, Rice and Zubimendi

Arteta's dressing-room rallying cry as Arsenal stars suffer title jitters

BY **RYAN TAYLOR**
AND **JOHN CROSS**

MIKEL ARTETA has drummed into Arsenal's players that they are still in pole position to win the Premier League title.

The Gunners have managed just two points from their last three games after being hit by a serious case of the title jitters. Boss Arteta gave a rabble-rousing dressing-room speech after the 3-2 defeat by Manchester United on Sunday, reminding his players they are still the team to beat this season.

The defeat saw Arsenal's lead cut to just four points after victories for Manchester

TURN TO PAGE 59, COL 4

KANE'S NEW DEAL TALKS AT BAYERN

BY **JEREMY CROSS**

HARRY KANE has opened talks with Bayern Munich about a new contract that would see him finish his top-level career with the German champions.

And putting pen to paper would almost certainly end Kane's chances of returning to the Premier League in a bid to break Alan Shearer's all-time scoring record.

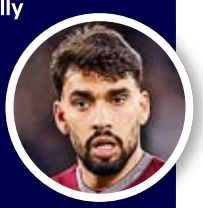
The England captain (above) has been a huge success since joining Bayern from Tottenham in 2023 for £86million, plundering 119 goals in just 126

TURN TO PAGE 59, COL 6

PAQ YOUR BAGS & GO TO BRAZIL

LUCAS PAQUETA is set to leave West Ham after a £36million deal was agreed with Flamengo.

The midfielder (below) has been pushing for a return to Brazil this month and the two clubs have verbally agreed a deal.



West Ham were believed to be only considering a sale if they could have Paqueta back on loan for the rest of the season.

But the relegation-threatened Hammers have now accepted a deal which sees Paqueta join Flamengo immediately. The 28-year-old Brazil international

TURN TO PAGE 59, COL 6

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Puzzles

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, row, and 3x3 square includes all of the digits from one to nine. **Solutions tomorrow**

EASY

2			5			3		6
		5	3		4		2	9
	9			2		4		
	6	2			1	9		4
9		7		8		1		
		8	9			5	3	
		6					1	
8	5			4	6	7		
	2		1		7			8

MEDIUM

3		7	9			2		4
	2			4				
1						5	6	
	6	5		9				8
		4	3		5	7		
9				8		1	2	
	8	6		3				
					9		7	
5		2			7	8		3

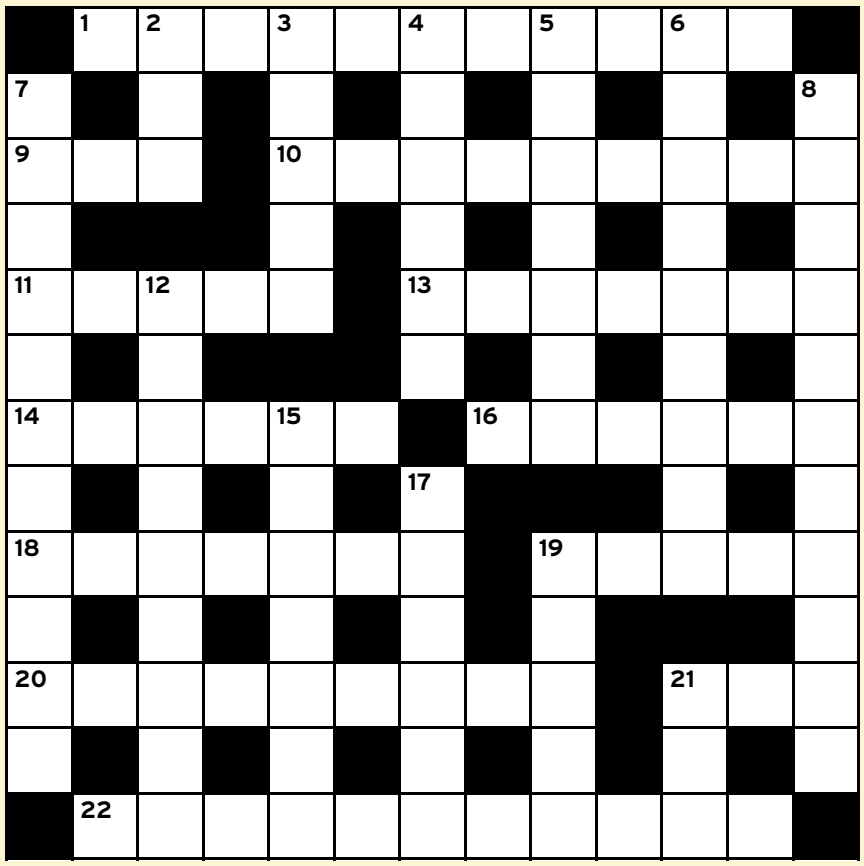
DIFFICULT

				9			1	
9					7		8	6
		1		6	8			
				1	4		7	
		3				1		
	1		3	7				5
			9	3		5		
2	3		4					1
	8							

Extra clues: **0901 322 5609**
**Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Today's solution: **0907 181 2573**
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Corrupted (11)
9 Fasten (3)
10 Assemble (9)
11 Beverage (5)
13 Scaled (7)
14 Happens (6)
16 Feverish (6)
18 Droll (7)
19 Fame (5)
20 Lay face down (9)
21 Zodiac sign (3)
22 Absolutely sure (4,7)

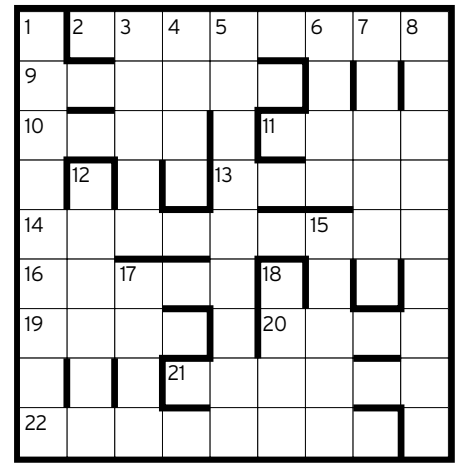
DOWN
2 Expire (3)
3 Exalted (5)
4 Adorn (6)
5 Greed (7)
6 Showed (9)
7 Doctor's instrument (11)
8 Ancestor (11)
12 Rot (9)
15 Narrated (7)
17 Gratify (6)
19 Genuflected (5)
21 Hawaiian garland (3)

Solution tomorrow

Stuck on the puzzle? Call **0905 789 4188** to hear individual clues or the full solution

Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge. Service provider Spoke Ltd - **Helpline 0333 202 3390*

SMALL CROSSWORD



ACROSS
2 Feed on scraps (8)
9 Flowering shrub (6)
10 Engrossed (4)
11 Lairs (4)
13 Evade (5)
14 Prohibited (9)
16 Room under the roof (5)
19 Italian greeting (4)
20 Traditional Indian dress (4)
21 Mark of disgrace (6)
22 Lessen (8)

DOWN
1 Unconcealed or shameless (9)
3 Frolic (5)
4 Performs a role (4)
5 Clear of blame or suspicion (9)
6 Require (4)
7 Hot fragrant spice (6)
8 Neat isles (anag.) (9)
12 Advance warning (6)
15 Pulls along the ground (5)
17 Bathroom powder (4)
18 Continent (4)

Solution tomorrow

For today's solution call:
0907 181 2582
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

CROSS DOUBT

Target times: Average: **16 mins** Good: **12 mins** Excellent: **8 mins**

Stuck? Call for a clue
0901 322 5601
Halve your Target Time!

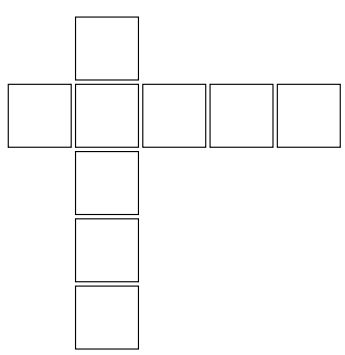
Today's solution
0901 322 5607
Both today's words in a moment!

**Calls cost 75p plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

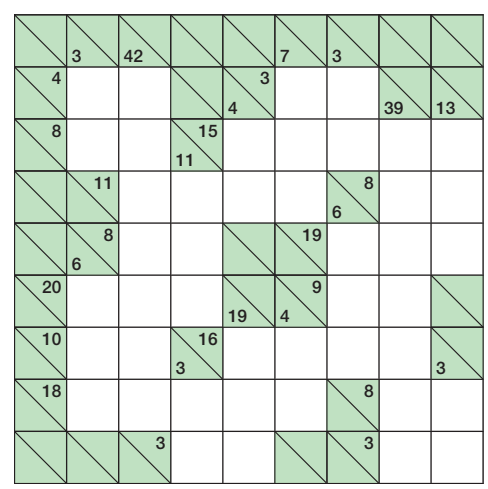
Can you make two common five-letter words from the nine letters given, using each letter only once? You can – but only if one letter features in both words in the squares on the right. There's at least one way to do it, and you have to have the right letter at the crossover – but which one is it?

See if you can find the answer within our target time. If you need help, ring our clue-line below to find out the crossover letter. Solution tomorrow

A G I K N N O P R



KAKURO



Fill each sequence of blank squares using the numbers 1-9. Each sequence – across and down – must total the number in the shaded box at the beginning or top of each line. A number may be repeated in each line but NOT in a sequence.

Solution tomorrow

Puzzles

QUIZWORD

ACROSS

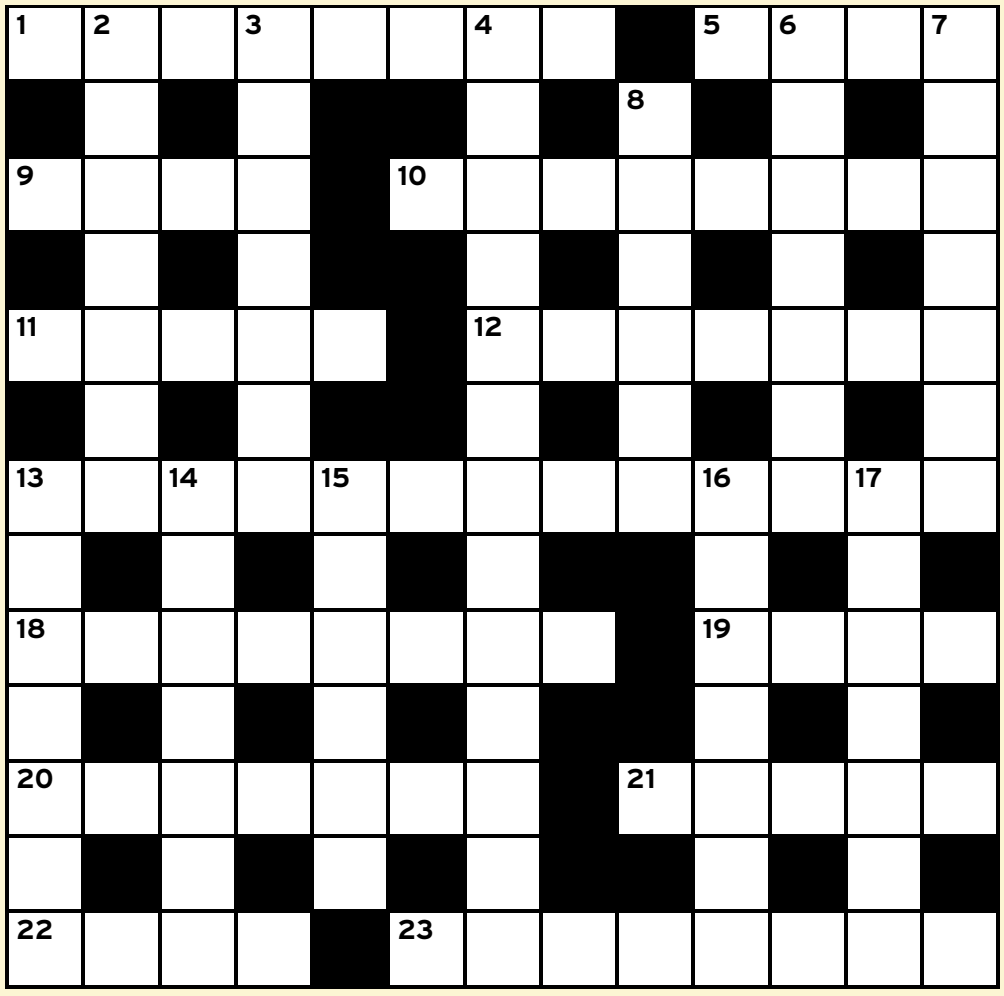
1 Large tree, Quercus alba, of eastern North America (5,3)
5 One twelfth of a foot (4)
9 White powder consisting mainly of sodium chloride that is used for seasoning (4)
10 Mia, actress whose film roles include Elizabeth Short in the 2006 film Black Dahlia (8)
11 George Stevens film starring Alan Ladd in the title role (5)
12 In surveying, the horizontal angle of a bearing clockwise from a standard direction (7)
13 Tom Shadyac film starring Jim Carrey and Morgan Freeman (5,8)
18 Muse of epic poetry in Greek mythology (8)
19 Guy, 1976 Olympic men's 110m hurdles champion (4)
20 Scale of temperature in which the boiling point of water is taken as 80º (7)
21 Town in the Netherlands associated with a type of tin-glazed earthenware (5)
22 Paul, Best Actor in a Leading Role Oscar winner for The Story Of Louis Pasteur (4)
23 Mountain range between France and Spain whose highest peak is Pico de Aneto (8)

DOWN

2 Low-growing evergreen Eurasian shrub having clusters of small bell-shaped pinkish-purple flowers (7)
3 James Cameron film starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet (7)
4 1977 stage play by Mike Leigh (8,5)
6 --- Palace was built for Henry VIII of England near Ewell, Surrey (7)
7 Barbara, Best Actress in a Supporting Role Oscar nominee for The Portrait Of A Lady (7)
8 Town in central Italy that is the birthplace of St Francis (6)
13 Coarse cotton fabric heavily sized with glue that is used in bookbinding (7)
14 Liv, Best Actress in a Leading Role Oscar nominee for the films Face To Face and The Emigrants (7)
15 Cipher device used by Germany during the Second World War (6)
16 Small European freshwater fish, Gobio gobio (7)
17 Edible subterranean fungus also called an earthnut (7)

Solution tomorrow

Stuck on the puzzle? Call
0905 789 4190
to hear individual clues or the full solution
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*
Service provider Spoke Ltd -
Helpline 0333 202 3390



SAMURAI SUDOKU

In Samurai Sudoku, normal sudoku rules apply, but the 9x9 sudoku at the centre shares four of its 3x3 boxes with those of the outer sudokus.

Solution tomorrow

8	2		9					
				3		4		9
	6		7					3
		4		7			5	
	8			5	2			
		5				2	3	8
		8	4		7			
9							7	
1		2			6			

	5		2		8		9	
9		8						4
			7		9			
				2		7		1
	7	6			5			
3		9				4		8
			3	9			1	
				7				9
			6				4	

			2		3			
			5	6				
			1		4			
4		5	2					
			8		5			
8		1						
			1		3		8	
3	2	7						
					2		7	9
	1			4		5		7
7		9		2				
	6			3		2		1

			9			2	7	
			5		1			
			6				4	
			8		5			
				5	9		8	
			4			1		9
			9		8	2		6
						1		9
			1	6				

			9			2	7	
			5		1			
			6				4	
			8		5			
				5	9		8	
			4			1		9
			9		8	2		6
						1		9
			1	6				

WORD BUILDER

Answer each clue so that every word contains the same letters as the previous word, plus or minus one.

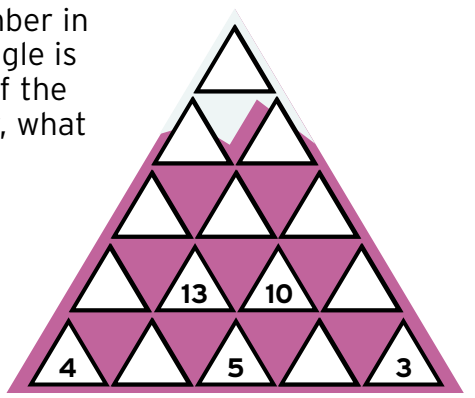
Solution tomorrow

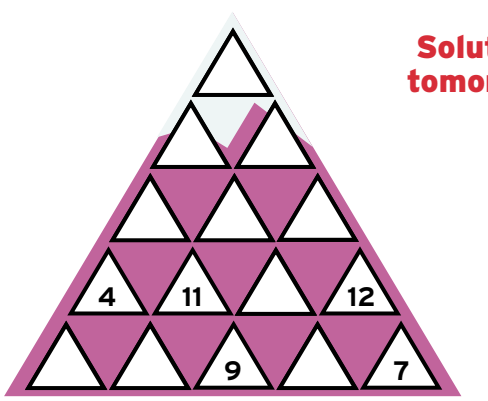
1 □□□
2 □□□□
3 □□□□□
4 □□□□□□
5 □□□□□
6 □□□□
7 □□□

1 Period
2 Seldom seen
3 Ballet support
4 Cask
5 More capable
6 Mound of hay
7 Beer

SUMMIT UP

If the number in each triangle is the sum of the two below, what is the top number?





Solution tomorrow

SMALL CROSSWORD

Across:
1 Overpower,
7 Repeal,
9 Chic,
10 Luton,
12 Soda,
13 Ambitious,
14 Roll,
16 Demob,
18 None,
19 Closer,
20 Dangerous.

Down:
1 Orchards,
2 Epic,
3 Recoil,
4 Palatable,
5 Wet,
6 Exodus,
8 Gnashers,
11 Amoeba,
12 Signor,
15 So-so,
17 Men.

ARROW-WORD

Arrow-words are like crosswords, but the clues are printed inside squares on the grid. Write your answers in the blank squares in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Solution tomorrow

WORDSEARCH

C	O	R	N	I	S	H	Y	A	R	G	U	M	G	A
A	P	P	L	E	W	O	O	D	P	E	T	J	R	Y
E	N	U	V	H	Y	X	I	O	L	P	X	E	B	N
R	T	U	W	W	V	N	L	A	N	T	T	R	O	N
P	J	Q	E	T	N	N	D	C	N	S	E	T	R	B
H	C	L	W	E	U	Y	N	O	E	D	L	E	R	L
I	V	Y	F	D	E	A	T	C	E	I	T	A	C	U
L	D	Y	N	L	M	L	I	G	T	N	D	Z	H	E
L	U	L	S	S	E	E	A	S	I	D	R	H	E	V
Y	K	N	T	H	L	S	B	T	E	W	H	Z	S	I
R	E	N	C	D	L	E	P	H	Y	K	M	I	H	N
W	U	I	E	T	X	T	C	W	D	H	B	T	I	N
H	T	R	E	D	W	I	N	D	S	O	R	D	R	E
S	H	R	O	P	S	H	I	R	E	B	L	U	E	Y
S	T	I	N	K	I	N	G	B	I	S	H	O	P	J

BRITISH CHEESES

Find all the terms listed below in the grid.

Solution tomorrow

APPLEWOOD ● BLUE VINNEY ● CAERPHILLY
CHEDDAR ● CHESHIRE ● CORNISH YARG
DUNLOP ● HUNTSMAN ● RED LEICESTER
RED WINDSOR ● SAGE DERBY
SHROPSHIRE BLUE ● STICHELTON
STILTON ● STINKING BISHOP ● TINTERN
WENSLEYDALE ● Y FENNI

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

QUICK CROSSWORD

Across: 1 Deed, **3** Amicable, **9** Defunct, **10** Nudge, **11** Conservative, **13** Topple, **15** Stolid, **17** Conglomerate, **20** Clean, **21** Succeed, **22** Masterly, **23** Stem.
Down: 1 Dedicate, **2** Elfin, **4** Motive, **5** Constituency, **6** Bedevil, **7** Ever, **8** Intelligence, **12** Addendum, **14** Profess, **16** Morsel, **18** Avert, **19** Scum.

WORDSEARCH

F	M	U	S	T	L	O	V	E	D	O	G	S	H	J
R	A	Q	N	W	H	I	T	E	F	A	N	G	S	L
A	M	D	O	D	E	F	Z	Q	T	M	A	B	N	A
N	A	Z	O	F	E	X	O	A	M	L	V	E	O	S
K	R	M	J	G	R	R	G	O	L	Z	V	S	W	S
E	L	C	U	J	S	K	D	I	K	O	A	T	D	I
N	E	Q	U	E	F	P	W	O	H	J	K	I	O	E
W	Y	D	S	J	U	N	U	T	G	C	S	N	G	C
E	A	G	H	C	O	E	E	R	O	Q	W	S	S	O
E	N	T	D	R	Q	E	F	G	P	J	P	H	Y	M
N	D	A	I	R	B	U	D	L	E	O	L	O	B	E
I	M	E	P	E	E	O	U	H	U	P	S	W	E	H
E	E	R	N	J	A	V	L	A	W	K	W	E	N	O
B	J	B	A	L	T	O	R	T	P	Z	E	A	J	M
E	I	G	H	T	B	E	L	O	W	A	Z	A	I	E

ARROW-WORD

	S		H		D		L		M		N			
D	E	C	A	D	E		I	D	A	H	O			
	A		L		A	R	M		G		N			
U	N	L	O	A	D		P	A	N	T	S			
		O		L	E	T		M	E	R	E			
M	I	L	T	O	N		L	A	T	I	N			
	L		U	N	D	O	E	S		A	S	H		F
B	L	I	N	G		C	A	S	T	L	E		S	O	W
	F		G		B	A	D		H			T	O	G	O
H	A	S	S	L	E		E	R	A	S	E		F		V
	T	O	T		G	A	R	E	T	H		T	A	L	E
H	E	L	E	N		D		E		R	A	I	S	I	N
	D	E	N		C	O	G	S		E	R	A		M	
			O		R	E	E	D	O	R	G	A	N		
A	N	T	I						M	A	R			A	
	C		T	E	R	R	A			E	A	T			
C	E	N	T	R	E		T	R	A	C	T				
	A		E	N	N	U	I		S	H	E				
A	L	F	R	E	D		C	H	E	E	R				

SUDOKU EASY

3	4	9	7	1	6	5	2	8
8	6	2	9	5	4	7	1	3
1	7	5	2	8	3	6	9	4
9	2	3	4	6	1	8	7	5
4	5	6	8	9	7	1	3	2
7	8	1	5	3	2	4	6	9
6	1	4	3	2	5	9	8	7
5	3	8	1	7	9	2	4	6
2	9	7	6	4	8	3	5	1

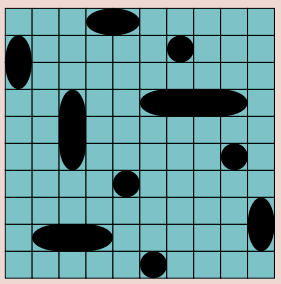
SUDOKU MEDIUM

4	3	7	9	2	6	1	8	5
5	1	2	3	7	8	6	4	9
8	6	9	1	4	5	3	7	2
7	2	8	4	3	9	5	6	1
1	5	6	2	8	7	4	9	3
9	4	3	6	5	1	7	2	8
2	8	5	7	6	3	9	1	4
6	9	4	5	1	2	8	3	7
3	7	1	8	9	4	2	5	6

SUDOKU DIFFICULT

8	9	6	1	2	5	4	3	7
7	1	5	9	4	3	2	6	8
4	2	3	8	6	7	1	5	9
5	3	1	4	7	8	9	2	6
9	8	7	2	1	6	5	4	3
2	6	4	3	5	9	8	7	1
3	7	9	5	8	4	6	1	2
1	4	8	6	3	2	7	9	5
6	5	2	7	9	1	3	8	4

BATTLESHIPS



KAKURO

	1	3	2		2	1		
	2	1	4		1	3	2	4
			3	1			1	2
		4	1	2	3		3	1
	2	8		6	9	8	5	
	1	7			2	1		
	4	9	1	2		2	3	1
			3	1		4	1	2

WORD BUILDER

Arc, Crag, Cigar, Garlic, Grail, Lair, Ail

TARGET

FATEFULLY
fall, fate, fateful, FATEFULLY, fatly, fault, faulty, fealty, feat, fell, fella, felt, feta, fetal, flat, flatly, flay, flea, flue, flute, fluty, flyleaf, fuel, full, fully, leaf, leafy, left, lefty, luff, tufa, tuff

THE ALPHAPUZZLE

Across: Dreaming, Grade, Fruitcake, Cat, Robe, Scorch, Physic, Zombie, Valour, Woof, Two, Outwardly, Edify, Prisoner.
Down: Defer, Panther (clue), Equably, Vomit, Mate, Killjoy, Nuance, Duster, Gearbox, Laws, Match, Broaden, Denture, Foyer.

THE ALPHABEATER

Black squares: 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 17, 19, 24, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38.
Across: Cavalry, Charge, Bulimic, Fazing, Voucher, Tsar, Stash, Ward, Scoffed, Bouncy, Example, Frozen, Joyless. **Down:** Tissue, Phials, Advocacy, Agony, Trellis, Aqueous, Dowry, Lymphoma, Rocked, Corked.

CROSS DOUBT

Across: HEELS
Down: SHOCK

Puzzles

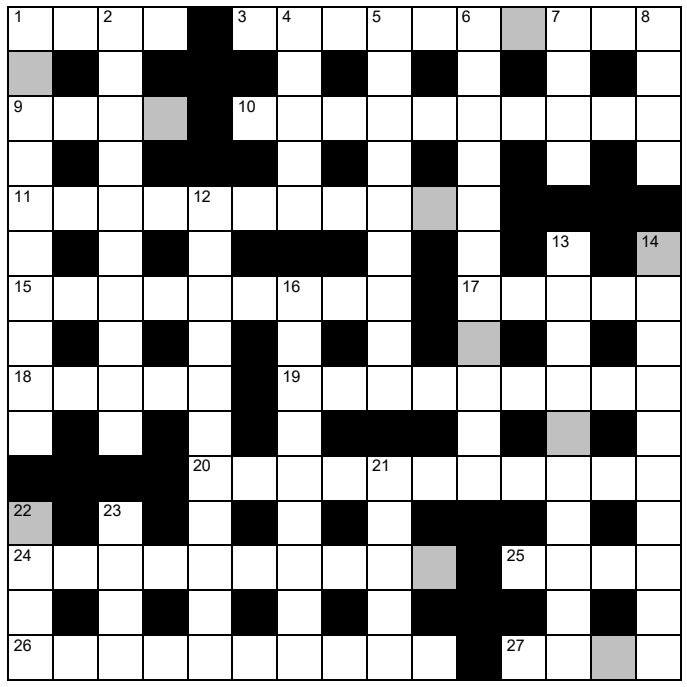
CRUSADER PRIZE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Opening includes small intake of breath (4)
3 'Bile spread in afterthought', to quote vote (10)
9 New one, generating gas (4)
10 Sometimes performing function (2,8)
11 Epic creator ordered to return (11)
15 Worst location to survive first (4,5)
17 Fellow with worn-out expression (5)
18 Heard a note from a singer (5)
19 He'll fetch the dog (9)
20 Elaborated border I deem to be wrong (11)
24 Fully nude (10)
25 Climbing around branch (4)
26 Events for optical aids (10)
27 Keen to renovate joint (4)

DOWN

1 Officer to object to your first sweeping statement (10)
2 Presenting display with shell (10)
4 Tempo is fast – only start (5)
5 United church in most empty city (9)
6 Attitude changed – most fainted (5,2,4)
7 Woman from Fair Isle (4)
8 Smaller net contains a bird (4)
12 Daily importance given to ornament (11)
13 Change of heart is a trick with variety (10)
14 Incorporated end of fodder – fit to eat, amazing (10)
16 Cobra act involved getting one energetic (9)
21 Award points for being overweight (5)
22 Spat out bathroom fittings (4)
23 Deepest yellow around inflammation (4)



WIN £100 CASH

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN
Read down the letters in the highlighted squares to reveal the mystery word.

TO ENTER: Call **0904 161 3700** (calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge) and leave your answer and details, or text **DXCRUS** followed by a space, your answer, name and address details to **88833** (texts cost £1.50 plus your standard network rate). Lines close at midnight Saturday. Or send your grid containing the answer in the shaded squares by posting it to: Crusader Crossword, January 27, PO Box 8694, Derby DE1 9TW. Entries must be postmarked by January 28 at the latest. For any postal enquiries, call helpline number. SP: Spoke – 0333 202 3390.
An extra day is given for postal entries during bank holidays.
● ***One weekly winner will be the first random correct entry drawn from all entry routes after the closing date of midnight Saturday. Competition runs Sunday to Saturday. The Editor's decision is final.***

NEED HELP? Call **0904 161 1609** for 5 extra clues! Calls cost £1.50 plus your telephone company's network access charge.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

LAST FRIDAY'S SOLUTION
ACROSS: 1 Exasperate, 6 Acid, 10 Retired, 11 Roaring, 12 Harmonica, 13 Dogma, 14 Storm, 15 Energised, 17 Redundant, 20 Noble, 21 Three, 23 Guarantee, 25 General, 26 Askance, 27 Colt, 28 Ancestress. **DOWN:** 1 Earth, 2 Afterword, 3 Performance art, 4 Red wine, 5 Tartare, 7 Cling, 8 Dog paddle, 9 Cardigan jacket, 14 Strategic, 16 Substance, 18 Angolan, 19 Teacake, 22 Renal, 24 Evens. **Prizeword:** Saracen

TARGET

T	O	U
N	N	R
D	E	D

● *The Target uses words in the main body of Chambers 21st Century Dictionary (1999 edition)*

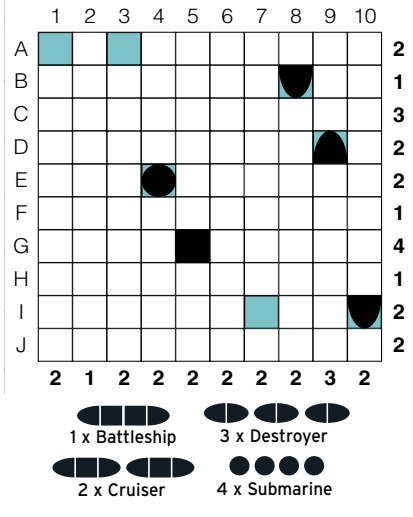
HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word. No plurals. Verb forms ending in S permitted.

TODAY'S TARGET
Good 30; **very good** 45; **excellent** 60 **(or more).** Solution tomorrow

Call **0907 181 2585**
for today's Target solution
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

BATTLESHIPS

FIND where the fleet of ships shown is hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some squares have been filled in to start you off.
Solution tomorrow



THE ALPHABEATER

TARGET TIME: 36 minutes

CAN you crack the Alphabeater? Each grid number represents a letter – or black square. As in Alphapuzzle, every letter of the alphabet is used. But you have to complete the grid too! Use the given letters and black squares below the grid to start. The grid is 'rotationally symmetrical' – in other words, it looks the same if you turn the page upside down.
Solution tomorrow

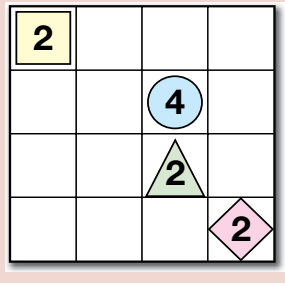
Extra letter clues
0907 181 2560
(Deduct three minutes for each extra clue letter heard)
Full solution
0907 181 2558
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

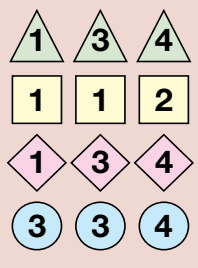
A	10	13	26	24	13	26	9	29	35	30	27	17	38
B	16	2	31	28	11	25	39	2	30	15	13	8	13
C	6	33	13	2	14	17	35	24	30	4	24	2	10
D	18	13	39	4	17	22	31	9	5	11	34	33	30
E	17	8	29	35	16	17	20	35	26	17	3	31	40
F	32	28	11	25	27	33	23	22	25	9	6	8	19
G	10	16	35	40	30	36	24	19	16	17	39	13	12
H	28	2	18	32	15	8	26	15	6	8	36	5	9
I	26	16	17	3	17	24	38	13	35	31	30	32	7
J	16	19	24	28	32	19	13	5	26	22	17	16	16
K	6	36	34	15	20	16	6	38	37	25	13	4	35
L	7	33	17	5	6	22	24	11	8	32	21	36	26
M	30	37	16	23	34	30	4	30	1	23	17	35	27
N													
O													
P													
Q													
R													
S													
T													
U													
V													
W													
X													
Y													
Z													

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			■						P					■					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
								B										M	

● Alternatively, for six Extra Letter clues to your mobile, text **DXBEAT** to **64343.** Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.

KEIJO





Place the tiles into the grid so that four different numbers and four different shapes appear in each row and column.
Solution tomorrow

THE ALPHAPUZZLE®

Alphapuzzle® tests logic and word power. Each grid number stands for a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters – below the main grid – to start. Solution tomorrow

DIFFICULTY: 9/10; **TARGET:** 29 mins; **CLUE:** Bother an animal.

A	■	16	■	20	■	10	■	5	■	■	■	21	■
B	■	12	1	3	8	16	20	22	■	21	19	1	24
C	■	20	■	1	■	16	■	16	■	2	■	10	■
D	20	9	1	22	■	1	12	20	2	5	1	22	23
E	■	1	■	■	■	22	■	6	■	10	■	16	■
F	11	6	20	25	11	23	■	4	8	12	12	1	6
G	■	■	■	10	■	■	■	■	■	8	■	■	■
H	14	5	22	26	12	1	■	7	10	24	26	1	6
I	■	22	■	8	■	2	■	1	■	■	■	22	■
J	24	8	21	16	20	5	22	23	■	15	12	10	18
K	■	21	■	10	■	10	■	6	■	1	■	25	■
L	26	20	10	12	■	23	6	10	11	1	17	1	■
M	■	22	■	■	■	1	■	13	■	12	■	12	■
N													
O													
P													
Q													
R													
S													
T													
U													
V													
W													
X													
Y													
Z													

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
				U							L		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	

EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0907 181 2568*
Hear up to six Extra Letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard.
FULL SOLUTION: **0907 181 2565***
ACROSS ONLY: **0907 181 2561*** / DOWN ONLY: **0907 181 2562***
**Calls cost 80p per minute plus your telephone company's network access charge.*

Alternatively, for six extra letter clues direct to your mobile, text **DXALPHA** *to* **64343.** *Texts cost £1 plus standard network rate.*

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THE DAILY EXPRESS 30-SECOND CHALLENGE

TODAY'S ANSWERS: BEGINNER = 56; INTERMEDIATE = 56; ADVANCED = 166.

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